FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 OCTOBER 1983

Lebanon

Rescue Work, Casualty Toll — U.S. Marines continuing rescue operations in the rubble of their shattered headquarters were placed on alert when they were subjected to sniper fire early on 25 October, AFP reported. Meanwhile, the death toll from the explosions rose to 197 Marines and 54 French soldiers, according to Beirut radio.

Responsibility, Allegations — Another Lebanese Muslim group — the "Islamic Jihad Organization" — claimed responsibility for the attacks on the U.S. and French headquarters, announcing in a telephone call to AFP that the operation followed its earlier bomb attack on the U.S. Embassy. The group is neither Iranian, nor Syrian, nor Palestinian but consists of Lebanese Muslims who are "soldiers of God and in love with death" and who wish to rid Lebanon of all foreign forces and establish an Islamic republic, the caller declared. In a related development, French journalist Eric Rouleau revealed that a Shi'ite official told him a month ago that a Shi'ite suicide squad was planning to attack the French and U.S. forces in Lebanon, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon.

The Command Council of the Phalangist Lebanese Forces blamed Syria for the bombings, stating in a communique broadcast by Radio Free Lebanon that accusations of Iranian or local involvement in the "massacres" should not hide the "truth regarding the Syrian role in planning, implementing, and distributing roles to all those agents who are numerous on the local scene." The Israeli deputy prime minister and UN ambassador likewise implicated Syria, according to IDF and Jerusalem radios.

Responding to the White House announcement that the United States is studying the possibility of Syrian involvement in the bombings, a responsible Syrian source cited by SANA said the U.S. statement is "irresponsible" and indicates that U.S. officials are seeking to justify their inability to ascertain the facts by producing a scapegoat. "We do not hesitate to admit what we do and we do not care if others accuse us of what we did not do, particularly if the accusation comes within the framework of a continuous policy hostile to Syria," the official added. In other Syrian comment, the daily *Tishrin* viewed the attacks as part of the Lebanese National Resistance's struggle against occupation forces and of the civil war which is continuing despite the cease-fire agreement because of cease-fire violations "by the Phalangist Army and militias" backed by the United States, SANA reported. While Damascus radio described the explosions in Beirut as "terrible" and provided detailed coverage of the affair, the radio warned the United States against using "any pretext" to escalate its military involvement in Lebanon. The radio also accused the Phalangists of seeking excuses to escalate Western military intervention and claimed that the United States is "enthusiastic" about a large-scale Israeli military strike in the region.

Other Reaction — The Security Arrangements Committee, which comprises representatives of the Lebanese Army, the Lebanese Front, the National Salvation Front, and the Amal Movement, condemned the explosions in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio. Nevertheless, Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt warned that such acts "could well continue" if the United States maintains its military presence in the area and continues its support for the policy of the Lebanese Government, according to Radio Free Lebanon.

Baghdad Voice of PLO radio said that, although the PLO does not wish death for anyone, the bomb blasts in Beirut were neither tragic nor criminal because the United States must "suffer the consequences" of placing its troops in combat positions in Lebanon.

Moscow Radio's World Service in English warned that the United States intends to respond to the bombings in a "bellicose" manner.

European Commitment — France will remain faithful to its undertakings in Lebanon, President Francois Mitterrand declared on his return to France at a press conference reported by Paris radio. Italian Defense Minister Giovanni Spadolini likewise ruled out a withdrawal of Italian troops, stating that Italy cannot turn its back on Lebanon and friendly nations, according to ANSA. On the other hand, the Athens paper *Elevtherotipia* reported that Greece may reconsider its decision to send military observers to supervise the cease-fire.

National Dialogue, PSP Conditions — President Amin al-Jumayyil will visit Bern on 29 October for talks with the Swiss president prior to going to Geneva for the National Dialogue Conference, according to a Swiss-Lebanese joint statement broadcast by Beirut radio. In Syria, a PSP official stated that in order to make the dialogue a success the Lebanese Army and Phalangists must completely abide by the cease-fire, the government must revoke its decision to impose press censorship, and the authorities must lift the curfew in Beirut. In his statement, broadcast by Damascus radio, the official also expressed concern over the stockpiling of heavy weapons by the Army and the Phalangists, which exposes "their premeditated intention to reignite the war and attack the nationalists." Earlier, Radio Monte Carlo reported that the leaders of the National Salvation Front — Walid Junblatt, Sulayman Franjiyah, and Rashid Karami — are expected to meet in Damascus shortly to formulate a unified stand for the National Dialogue Conference.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian Offensive — Reporting on the latest offensive in the northern sector, Iranian military communiques broadcast by

Tehran radio stated that on 24 October Iranian forces captured several more villages and heights and shot down an Iraqi plane. The communiques maintained that during this phase of the offensive Iraq has suffered over 1,600 killed and 210 captured. The radio also contended that Iranian forces "crushed" an Iraqi counterattack in the northern sector on 24 October, killing or wounding at least 200. On the other hand, an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio stated that Iraqi forces repulsed Iran's latest attack, killing 1,500 Iranians.

Iraqi Missile Attacks — The director general of foreign affairs in the Iranian Foreign Ministry "strongly criticized" international bodies such as the United Nations and the International Red Cross for their silence on Iraqi long-range missile attacks on civilian targets in Iran, referring specifically to the 22 October attack on Masjed Soleyman, IRNA reported. Meanwhile, President Saddam Husayn was cited by INA as stating that Iraq will continue to strike at the enemy, including "targets deep inside Iran."

Japan-Iran Petrochemical Project — Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe revealed that the Iraqi Government officially notified the Japanese ambassador that the Japan-Iran joint petrochemical project in Bandar Khomeyni will not be exempted from attack, according to KYODO. As a result, the Japanese company responsible for the project stated that work will not resume so long as danger continues. Japan has appealed to Iraq not to attack the project and to Iran to both guarantee the project's safety and to ensure no further escalation of the war, the agency reported.

PLO Affairs

Syrian and Fatah opposition forces in northern Lebanon attacked pro-'Arafat positions in the Bibnin, Al-Minyah, 'Adwi, and Bhannin areas, but were repulsed, according to Radio Free Lebanon. In another incident, Syrian artillery in the Bibnin area shelled pro-'Arafat positions to the northeast of the Nahr al-Barid camp, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported, while Voice of Lebanon said the shelling killed four Fatah members. North Lebanon Voice of Palestine radio also noted the incident, reporting that the 'Arafat forces first stopped attempts by Fatah dissident and PFLP-General Command forces to advance, after which the General Command began shelling from positions in Syrian-controlled territory. On the other hand, a Fatah opposition spokesman, cited by Radio Monte Carlo, denied that the PFLP-General Command and opposition forces launched an attack in the area, declaring instead that 'Arafat forces had attacked opposition positions but the attack had been foiled.

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 207 *25 October 1983*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Beirut Explosions 'Neither Tragic Nor Criminal' *[Baghdad VOP]* ..... A 1
DFLP Official Blames U.S. for Beirut Events *[QNA]* ..... A 1
Baghdad VOP Warns of Syrian Liquidation Plan ..... A 2
Junblatt's Contacts, Fatah Clashes Reported *[Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... A 2
Shelling of Refugee Camp in Tripoli Reported *[Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... A 3
Attack Detailed *[Baghdad VOP]* ..... A 3
Pro, Anti-'Arafat Gunmen Clashes Reported *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... A 3
Four Fatah Members Killed By Syrian Shelling *[Beirut Voice of Lebanon]* ..... A 3
Palestinian Factions Clash in Damascus *[Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... A 3
Dissidents Attack Nahr Al-Barid Camp Area *[North Lebanon VOP]* ..... A 3
PFLP-GC on Clashes *[North Lebanon COP]* ..... A 4
Libyan Intelligence Seizes PLO Offices *[North Lebanon VOP]* ..... A 4
AD-DUSTUR Interviews Fatah's Khalil al-Wazir *[22 Oct]* ..... A 4

ARABIAN PENINSULA

GULF AFFAIRS

Gulf States Plan Joint Radar Network *[ARAB TIMES 23 Oct]* ..... C 1

KUWAIT

Pessimism Over Beirut Bombings Expressed ..... C 1
Foreign Minister Views Beirut Explosions ..... C 1
'Truth' of U.S. 'Lessons' in Beirut Viewed *[AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM, AL-WATAN]* ..... C 1
Official Denies Knowledge of New Jordanian Force ..... C 2

OMAN

Government Denounces Beirut Explosion ..... C 2
PRC Foreign Minister Arrives on Official Visit ..... C 2
Talks Begin in Muscat ..... C 2
Meets Deputy Prime Minister ..... C 2
Discusses GCC, Middle East ..... C 2
Meets Deputy Premier ..... C 3

QATAR

AL-'ARAB, AR-RAYAH Note Beirut Incident ..... C 3

SAUDI ARABIA

Purpose Behind Beirut Blasts Analyzed ..... C 3
King Fahd on Arab Summit in University Speech ..... C 4
Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud Concludes Tour ..... C 4
Defense Minister Returns From Rome Talks ..... C 4

UAE

AL-KHALIJ Views Attack of U.S. Marines in Lebanon *[24 Oct]* ..... C 4

AL-KHALIJ Warns of U.S. Presence in Gulf ..... C 5
Heir Apparent on Joint GCC Air Maneuvers *[UKAZ]* ..... C 5

PDRY

Aden Radio Comments on Beirut Explosion ..... C 5
Chairman Receives Lebanese CP Secretary ..... C 6

EGYPT

Mubarak Condemns Attack on U.S., French Forces ..... D 1
Cairo Radio Comments on Beirut Explosions ..... D 1
Interior Minister on As-Sadat Plot, Other Topics ..... D 1
Foreign Influence Seen *[MAY]* ..... D 1
Minister Meets Foreign Correspondents ..... D 2

IRAQ

Communique on 23-24 Oct War Operations Issued ..... E 1
Commander Says Second Iranian Offensive Defeated ..... E 1
Field Commander Informs President of Battles ..... E 2
Papers on Right To Strike Anywhere in Iran ..... E 2
President on Striking Deep Inside Iran ..... E 2
President Thanks Citizens for War Donations ..... E 3
Statement Issued on UN Founding Anniversary ..... E 3

JORDAN

Ambassador in New Delhi Wounded by Gunman ..... F 1
Delhi Radio Report ..... F 1
AD-DUSTUR on U.S. Accusations Against Syria ..... F 1
Daily Urges Iran To End War With Iraq *[AD-DUSTUR]* ..... F 1
Mudar Badran Receives PSP Leader Junblatt ..... F 2
Canada's MacEachen Begins Visit 24 October ..... F 2
Foreign Ministers Hold Talks ..... F 2

LEBANON

Continuing Reportage on Aftermath of Explosions ..... G 1
Islamic Group Claims Responsibility ..... G 1
194 American, 54 French Deaths ..... G 1
Marine Deaths at 195 ..... G 1
300 Marine Replacements Arrive ..... G 1
Marines on Alert ..... G 1
Marine Corps Commandant Arrives ..... G 1
Security Arrangements Committee Condemns Explosions ..... G 1
Beirut To Invite Syria, Saudi Arabia to Meeting ..... G 2
VOL: Syrian Intelligence Men Entered Beirut ..... G 2
Shi'ite Suicide Squad Noted; Junblatt Warns U.S. *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 2
Mitterrand Meets Al-Jumayyil; Departs 24 October ..... G 2
Hernu Leaves With Mitterrand ..... G 2
Spadolini 'Rules Out' Beirut Troop Withdrawal *[ANSA]* ..... G 2
Al-Jumayyil Confers With Canada's MacEachen ..... G 2
Canadian Secretary Ends Visit ..... G 3
Al-Jumayyil To Visit Switzerland 29 October ..... G 3
NSF Leaders To Meet in Damascus 25 October *[Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... G 3
PSP Lists 'Minimum Level of Peaceful Practices' *[Damascus]* ..... G 3
CP Demands 'Arafat Leave Tripoli, Return to Tunis *[Damascus]* ..... G 4
Budapest TV Interview With CP Secretary ..... G 4
Karami Offers Condolences to U.S., France ..... G 5
Reportage on Tension in Southern Areas ..... G 6

Explosion Reported ..... G 6
IDF Attacked in As-Sarafand *[Voice of Arab Lebanon]* ..... G 6
Patrol Near Tyre Attacked *[Voice of Arab Lebanon]* ..... G 6
Al-Wazzan Comments on Events ..... G 6
General Strike 25 Oct ..... G 6
Some Areas Not Striking ..... G 6
An-Nabatiyah on Strike ..... G 7
Syrians Surround, Blockade 'Irsal 24 October ..... G 7
Arrests Reported After Attempt on Syria's Al-Asad ..... G 7

SYRIA

'Responsible Source' Reacts to U.S. 'Accusation' ..... H 1
ATH-THAWRAH on White House Statements ..... H 1
Reagan's Remarks on Remaining in Lebanon Reported ..... H 1
Damascus Television on U.S. NSC Meeting ..... H 1
Israel, U.S. Said Seeking Pretext for Mideast War ..... H 1
Damascus Assails U.S. Involvement in Lebanon ..... H 2
TISHRIN on Need for Serious Arab Action ..... H 3
Further Damascus Reports on Beirut Explosions ..... H 3
'Retaliatory Action' Decision Reported ..... H 3
Television Reports Increasing Toll ..... H 4
L'HUMANITE Warning Cited ..... H 4
Casualties in Explosions Cited ..... H 4
AL-BA'TH on Lebanese Reconciliation Conference ..... H 4
'Arafat's Muslim Brotherhood Affiliation Noted ..... H 5

ISRAEL

Further Reaction to Beirut Bombing Reported ..... I 1
UN Ambassador Accuses Syria ..... I 1
Peres Statement ..... I 1
Major Haddad Comments *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 24 Oct]* ..... I 1
David Levi Blames Syria ..... I 1
Defense Minister Arens on Al-Awwali, Marines ..... I 1
More on Arens Remarks ..... I 1
U.S. Rejection of Aid for Marines Criticized *[HA'ARETZ 25 Oct]* ..... I 1
Increase in Military Cooperation With U.S. Seen ..... I 2
DAVAR Points Finger at Syria, USSR for Beirut *[24 Oct]* ..... I 2
MA'ARIV Sees U.S. Remaining in Lebanon *[24 Oct]* ..... I 3
MA'ARIV Fears Stepup in Arms Race in Mideast *[21 Oct]* ..... I 4
Burg Comments on Lebanon Border Crossings ..... I 5
Strike Staged in Several S. Lebanon Villages ..... I 5
Finance Minister Explains Policy to U.S. Visitors ..... I 5
Herzog Scheduled To Leave for U.S. 14 Nov *[THE JERUSALEM POST 23 Oct]* ..... I 6
IDF To Cut Number of Brigadier Generals ..... I 6
MK Savidor Pessimistic About Liberal Party Future ..... I 6
SHELI Denies Participation in New Party ..... I 6
AL-FAJR Poll Shows W. Bank Support for 'Arafat ..... I 6

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

President Bendjedid Receives Andropov Message ..... Q 1
FLN, Guinean Delegation Discuss African Issues ..... Q 1
Communique on Visit ..... Q 1
Talks Begin With Venezuelan Energy Minister ..... Q 2
Delegation Confers With Officials ..... Q 2
Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Arrives *[IRNA]* ..... Q 2

LIBYA

Tripoli on Beirut Bombings, U.S. Reaction ..... Q 2
Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Message From Saudi King ..... Q 3
Tripoli Reports Power Struggle in Egypt ..... Q 3
Iranian Under Secretary Arrives in Tripoli ..... Q 4
Received by Liaison Secretary ..... Q 4
Received by Jallud ..... Q 4
Discusses Issues With Jallud ..... Q 4
YAR Chief of Staff Arrives 21 Oct ..... Q 4
Received by Jabir ..... Q 4
Meets Chief of Staff ..... Q 4
Departs for Home ..... Q 4
Armed Forces Commander Receives PLO Dissident ..... Q 5

SUDAN

Press Statement Denounces Beirut Explosions ..... Q 5
Ceausescu Leaves Sudan After Talks 24 Oct ..... Q 5

TUNISIA

Es-Sebsi Voices Bourguiba Regret at 'Aggression' ..... Q 5
Prime Minister, Bahraini Counterpart Hold Talks ..... Q 5
Prime Minister Receives Algerian Delegation Head ..... Q 6
Received by Defense Minister ..... Q 6

EAST AFRICA

DJIBOUTI

Repatriation of Ethiopian Refugees To Continue ..... R 1

SOMALIA

Romanian Deputy Prime Minister Visits Country ..... R 1
SRSP-RCP Talks Held ..... R 1
Meeting With Barre ..... R 1
Departure 23 October ..... R 1
Ethiopia Reportedly Training Yemeni Subversives ..... R 1
WSLF, ELF-PLF Leaders Meet in Mogadishu 22 Oct ..... R 2
Press Conference Held ..... R 2
Radio Halgan Reports Defections to Opposition ..... R 2

TANZANIA

Foreign Minister Comments on RSA Maputo Raid ..... R 2
Nairobi Cites Labor Minister on Job Campaign ..... R 3

UGANDA

Prime Minister Receives FRG Parliamentarians ..... R 3
NRA Issues Communique on Latest Offensive ..... R 3
AFP: NRA Seeks Aid for People Living in North ..... R 3

CENTRAL AFRICA

CHAD

Habre Leparts for Visit to Zaire 22 October ..... S 1

Bardai Comments on Visit ..... S 1
Bardai Radio Says Habre Forces Execute Four ..... S 1

CONGO

Sassou-Nguesso Receives Dos Santos Message *[Luanda]* ..... S 1

ZAIRE

Habre Makes Statement at Conclusion of Visit ..... S 1

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

Rawlings Orders Arming of PDC Members on Farm ..... T 1
PNDC Member Receives ANC Official 20 October ..... T 1
UN Envoy Calls for Eliminating Racism ..... T 1

GUINEA

PDG Issues Statement on Sahara Problem ..... T 1

GUINEA-BISSAU

High-Level Members of PAICG Expelled, Suspended *[LE MONDE 9-10 Oct]* ..... T 2

LIBERIA

Doe Says $975 Million Needed for Recovery ..... T 2
RSA Raid Into Mozambique Condemned ..... T 2

MALI

Ministers Return From USSR, DPRK 21 Oct ..... T 2
Minister of Foreign Affairs Arrives in Cuba *[Havana]* ..... T 2

NIGER

Three West African Summits To Be Held in Niamey ..... T 2

NIGERIA

Shagari Swears In Advisers, Pledges Integrity ..... T 3

SENEGAL

Diouf Comments on Sahara, Chad, Israel ..... T 3
Foreign Minister Leaves for Niamey Meetings ..... T 4

UPPER VOLTA

Togolese President Eyadema Greets Sankara ..... T 4
Malian President Traore Arrives, Comments ..... T 4
Communique on Traore Visit ..... T 4
Three Aid Agreements Signed With France ..... T 5
Minister Leaves for Talks in Brussels, Rome ..... T 6

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

UNITA Says Cuban Troops, Soviet Materiel Arrive *[Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel]* ..... U 1
UNITA Preparing for Offensive *[Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel]* ..... U 1

LESOTHO

King, Prime Minister Greet Zambian National Day ..... U 2
Jonathan on RSA Employment, Talks With LLA ..... U 2

MALAWI

Opposition Socialist League Elects New Chairman *[Harare THE HERALD 11 Oct]* ..... U 2

MOZAMBIQUE

Delegation Returns From Berlin CEMA Session ..... U 2
Soviet Muslim Group Visits Sofala Province ..... U 2
Frelimo Official Urges Security Organization ..... U 3

SOUTH AFRICA

'Black Consciousness', UDF Meetings Banned ..... U 3
AZAPO Reaction to Ban *[Umtata]* ..... U 3
Police Block AZAPO Meeting *[Umtata]* ..... U 3
Ban on Meetings Extended *[Umtata]* ..... U 4
UDF Secretary Detained *[Umtata]* ..... U 4
Lekota Freed; Leader Comments *[Umtata]* ..... U 4
UDF Rondebosch Meeting Banned ..... U 4
Meeting Allowed To Proceed ..... U 4
UDF Meeting Held *[Umtata]* ..... U 4
ANC Members Sentenced in Pretoria to Jail Terms ..... U 5

SWAZILAND

Two Former Officials Remain in Detention *[THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND 25 Oct]* ..... U 5

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Receives National Day Congratulations ..... U 5
Defense Secretary Warns of Malcontents, Refugees ..... U 5

ZIMBABWE

Soviet 'Ministerial Level' Women's Group Arrives ..... U 5

Beirut Explosions 'Neither Tragic Nor Criminal'
JN242030 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1643 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Unidentified correspondent's recorded dispatch on the radio's political editor article]

[Text] We really wish that the U.S. and French soldiers killed in Beirut yesterday had been in their homes in the United States and France drinking coffee with their parents. We do not wish death for anyone. Our people have been suffering from all types of death; hence, we are fed up with death, either among our own ranks or the ranks of others.

Yet, we certainly oppose the tone of the U.S. information media, which is spreading rapidly in the lackey Arab information media. This tone is trying to convince us that what happened in Beirut yesterday was criminal and tragic and, therefore, we must denounce it. Even political propriety would not allow us to adopt such a stand, for those killed in yesterday's explosions in Beirut were neither children, women, old people, nor civilians. Those killed in Beirut's explosions were U.S. soldiers serving outside the United States. They had received the best training available to the U.S. forces and were prepared by the Pentagon to interfere in non-American countries. They were equipped with the most sophisticated weapons in the world and protected from the sea by U.S. aircraft carriers and destroyers supplied with the largest and most accurate artillery ever made. They were combat soldiers. They were the pride of the United States, which warned that those soldiers' fire power should not be belittled. Those soldiers had proven their combat status, which we were aware of, through their participation in the Lebanese mountain's recent battles. That sea and land participation was such that it certainly prevented a clear victory in the mountain battles, a victory that could have changed the political map in Lebanon. Consequently, the U.S. forces' participation in the fighting in Lebanon gave these forces a political dimension extending deep into Lebanon's purely internal affairs and affecting these affairs in a manner contrary to the will of the Lebanese people and their conflicting forces.

The presence of these forces in Beirut and off its shores gained a combat status within a larger framework. These forces are fighting by proxy in a continued combat mission, which began with last year's Israeli invasion of Lebanon in accordance with the U.S.-Israeli strategy. The mintue that the Zionist enemy's forces completed their part of the mission, which was related to Beirut, the U.S. enemy forces entered to take positions and complete the mission.

According to their combat status, the U.S. forces took positions not only against the Lebanese people, but also against all that could have stemmed from the struggle in Lebanon, including its dimensions in the region and the balance of power and developments in it. In other words, the U.S. forces in Beirut and off the Lebanese coasts are in a combat position to prevent the struggle against the Zionist enemy. This struggle is mainly represented by the Palestinian revolution and the possibilities of its presence in Lebanon. This also applies to all the powers willing to promote the situation in the region into a state of struggle against the nation's enemies represented mainly by the Zionist entity.

We note that the instructions given to these U.S. forces to withdraw from Beirut in mid-September 1982 were the direct reason, if not the green light, for implementing the Sabra and Shatila massacres. Despite our wounds, we will not consider this issue as a reason to call on the Nationalist Forces in Lebanon and the region to adopt a combat position against the U.S. forces in Beirut and the Lebanese coast. These Lebanese or non-Lebanese Nationalist Forces have another stronger reason to adopt this position. This reason, which appears clearly, is that these same U.S. forces came to Lebanon to take a combat position against every nationalist, patriotic, and progressive factor in Lebanon and the region.

What happened in Beirut yesterday was neither tragic nor criminal as the U.S. information media and the lackey Arab information media are trying to tell us. The two explosions and the dead soldiers are part of a combat status and Washington has to bear the consequences of having its forces in this status.

DFLP Official Blames U.S. for Beirut Events
GF242044 Doha QNA in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus, 24 Oct (QNA) — A Palestinian official has held the United States responsible for the deterioration of the situation in Lebanon. He said that the continuation of the hostile U.S. policy will lead to further disasters, not only for the people of Lebanon and for Lebanon's unity, but also for the U.S. forces in Lebanon.

In a statement to the QNA correspondent, the Palestinian official, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, PLO Executive Committee member and assistant secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], said: What happened in Beirut and resulted in the death of many members of the U.S. and French Armed Forces was a result of the U.S. policy toward Lebanon, a policy that is totally hostile to Lebanon's Nationalist Forces and to the majority of the Lebanese people. 'Abd Rabbuh said that he believed that the Multinational Force must leave Lebanon. He said: The Multinational Force did not seek to create a balance or to mediate, but sought to support the Phalangists against other groups.

Answering a question on Syrian-Palestinian relations 'Abd Rabbuh said: Syrian-Palestinian relations must be strengthened in the face of the hostile Zionist-U.S. plot against Lebanon and the region. He expressed the hope that positive dialogue will continue so that all differences may be overcome. He said that such differences are secondary and that the present stage makes it necessary to harness all capabilities to confront the aggression that has been taking place and is taking place against the Palestinian revolution and the region.

Referring to the mediation efforts to resolve the differences within Fatah, 'Abd Rabbuh said: The resolution of these differences must take place within the Palestinian framework; any Arab efforts are helpful in resolving the differences. He said that the document that was agreed upon by the committee set up by the PNC to resolve the inter-Fatah dispute constitutes a sound basis for a democratic dialogue and for bringing about Fatah's

unity. 'Abd Rabbuh said that the leaderships of the DFLP and the PFLP recently put forth a joint document on the PLO's unity and reform that constitutes a basis for the PLO's unity and independence.

Baghdad VOP Warns of Syrian Liquidation Plan
JN241730 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1551 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Masses of our Palestinian people everywhere, steadfast heroes in Tripoli: Now that the campaign of accusations, the maneuvers of threats to remove brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] from among your ranks there, and the political onslaughts to achieve this objective have all failed, the perpetrators of the U.S. liquidation design have begun to explode the situation military in northern Lebanon by starting an intensive artillery shelling of our forces' positions east of Nahr al-Barid camp. This shelling came after yesterday's Libyan military advance in the direction of our positions in Tripoli and after these forces had taken new positions among the Syrian forces spread around Tripoli. The Syrian military command denied that it was shelling our positions and said that the shelling could be coming from the Jibril group and the dissidents. This denial exposes the scenario to explode the situation in Tripoli. We have always warned against this scenario. We have said that the Syrian regime would explode the situation under the cover of the dissidents and the agent Jibril group. Then the Syrian forces would interfere, playing the role of the side that wants to put an end to the situation there. Accordingly, the Syrian forces would enter the battle under this cover in order to implement the last chapter in the ugly liquidation design.

The Libyan military support for the Syrian siege on Tripoli came to further strengthen this tactic in the field. The agent Jibril group and the dissidents do not own the necessary military force to play an influential role in this scenario. Now that the cards of the game are completely exposed and this exposed scenario is being implemented, we warn against the seriousness of a military escalation against our besieged forces in Tripoli. We hold the Syrian side fully responsible for what happens. At the same time, we ask all the free men in our Arab nation; our brothers in the Palestinian arena, who still hope to surmount this crisis with Syria; and our friends and allies, to announce their frank stands on this vicious aggression against our revolution and people in Nahr al-Bardi. We fear that the situation may develop into a comprehensive confrontation, which we reject and are trying to avoid. Furthermore, we ask them to condemn the Syrian stand and the Syrians' manipulations of their agent tools to shell our people's camps in Tripoli. We call for condemning this stand on all levels and voicing support for our people and fighters in order to protect the revolution and to defend its future and the future of its people, who have been struggling and offering great sacrifices so this revolution may grow bigger to fulfill their national objectives and aspirations.

Those who are now being subjected to intensive artillery shelling are the sons and revolutionaries of Palestine, who are holding fast in the face of U.S. designs and attempts to control the region and liquidate all the progressive forces in it, foremost of which is the PLO.

The artillery shells of the liquidation design will hit us all unless we move together in one trench to deter these shells and return them to hit those who fired them. Let it be made crystal clear that our self-defense will not be a passive one. Our defense of the revolution and the people will never be passive. Let it be made clear that our faith and belief in our final victory are unshaken. Our masses and the valiant fighters of our revolution are confident of victory.

Junblatt's Contacts, Fatah Clashes Reported
JN241900 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Telephone dispatch from Louis Faris, Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Damascus]

[Excerpt] Efforts are continuing here to prepare the working paper which the National Salvation Front will submit to the reconciliation conference that is scheduled to be held in Geneva at the end of this month. Within this framework Walid Junblatt returned here today and met with leaders of the Lebanese National Movement. He then met with Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri.

Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam today also met with Walid Junblatt, Marwan Hamadah, Khalid Junblatt, and George Hawi in order to discuss the working paper. [Former] Prime Ministers Sulayman Franjiyah and Rashid Karami are expected to arrive in Damascus tomorrow to meet with Walid Junblatt and 'Abda la-Halim Khaddam. President Hafiz al-Asad is also expected to receive them.

Rafiq al-Hariri arrived here this morning and had talks with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam before he met with Junblatt. Al-Hariri has left for Saudi Arabia to report to the Saudi Government on the results of his mission.

The leaders of the Lebanese National Movement yesterday met with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. I have learned from a source in the progressive Socialist Party that Junblatt insists that the dialogue table should be oblong so that President al-Jumayyil and the leaders of the Lebanese Front can sit at one side and the opposition at the other side.

The Lebanese Communist Party issued a statement here today, calling for neutralizing Tripoli from the intra-Palestinian fighting. It demanded the departure of Yasir 'Arafat and other Fatah leaders from the city and the return of the forces opposing Yasir 'Arafat from the periphery of the camps in the north to the previous places. It also said that a neutral Palestinian leadership should adopt the necessary measures to protect the camps, while the National Salvation Front's forces, in cooperation with the Lebanese internal security forces, will maintain security in Tripoli and the port under the supervision of a coordination committee and Karami.

Finally, the official Fatah opposition movement's spokesman today charged that units belonging to Yasir 'Arafat attacked the opposition positions near the Nahr al-Barid camp in Tripoli. He added that the opposition forces returned fire and foiled the

attackers' plans. The spokesman denounced the internecine Palestinianan fighting.

The PFLP-GC spokesman Fadl Shururu denied the Tripoli Fatah leadership's claims that the PFLP-GC forces and the opposition elements launched an attack in the area. Shururu said this is untrue and added that 'Arafat's group [words indistinct] and spreading chaos and that such attempts are no longer [word indistinct].

Shelling of Refugee Camp in Tripoli Reported
JN241302 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1210 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] In Tripoli, northern Lebanon, a Palestinian military spokesman has stated that the dissidents from the Fatah movement and a PFLP-GC group today tried to approach the Fatah positions near the Nahr al-Barid refugee camp. He added that they proceeded from their positions near the (Al-'Abdah) roadblock controlled by the Syrian forces. The Palestinian spokesman added that after the attackers' approach failed, they shelled the camp, wounding several civilians. He concluded by saying that the Palestinian revolution command in Tripoli had asked the Syrian command in the north to take immediate action to halt the shelling of the camp, especially since this shelling is coming from areas under the Syrian forces' control.

Attack Detailed
JN241605 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1532 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] A Palestinian military spokesman has stated the following: At 1000 this morning, 24 October, the Syrian artillery stationed in the area of Bibnin shelled our positions located northeast of Nahr al-Barid camp. At 1030, some vehicles advanced toward our positions in that area. We have dealt and are still dealing with these vehicles. We contacted the Syrian command in that area and they informed us that they had not sent any vehicles in our direction and that these tanks [as heard] could be for the groups of agent Ahmad Jibril and the dissidents. The Palestinian military spokesman said that this suspect new operation comes at a time when the volatile situation in the region is becoming more dangerous, particularly after the statements Shamir made yesterday against the PLO. We will provide you with the details and the new developments of the battle.

A Palestinian military spokesman yesterday stated that at dawn yesterday, 23 October, a column of tanks, vehicles, rocket launchers, and machine guns carrying Libyan forces' marks was seen moving from the (Bishrin)-Ihdin-Zgharta axis and was stationed near the city of Tripoli.

In another development, reports from Tripoli indicate that an atmosphere of extreme tension prevails in Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi and that a spirit of resistance and challenge is spreading among the sons of our people and valiant fighters of our revolution there.

Pro, Anti-'Arafat Gunmen Clashes Reported
NC241225 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] On the security sphere in the north, the Syrians and those who seceded from Yasir 'Arafat have attacked positions belonging to Fatah in the areas of Bibnin, al-Minyah, 'Adwi and Bhannin. They were repulsed by 'Arafat's gunmen, who destroyed two tanks, one jeep, and a Syrian position. The attack was covered by a heavy artillery and rocket barrage on the Al-Barid and al-Baddawi camps — where the main centers of 'Arafat's gunmen are — in an attempt to paralyze their movement and facilitate the implementation of the operation. The clashes are continuing.

Four Fatah Members Killed By Syrian Shelling
NC241450 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Violent clashes occurred today between Fatah members and the dissidents in the Al-Barid camp and Al-'Adli areas. Rockets and machine guns were used. According to the available reports, four Fatah members were killed during the Syrian shelling of 'Arafat's forces.

Palestinian Factions Clash in Damascus
JN211615 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Machine gun clashes took place for 30 minutes today between rival Palestinian factions near the Fatah offices in Damascus. According to available information, it seems that the clashes began when PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's supporters tried to retake the Fatah offices which were occupied by the dissidents on the 10th of this month.

Dissidents Attack Nahr Al-Barid Camp Area
NC242030 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1915 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli — The Palestinian revolution forces in the Al-Barid area this morning confronted attempts by the dissidents and the Ahmad Jibril group to advance. Not content with their attempts to advance, these forces began shelling populated areas at 1020, especially the refugee houses near the cooperative society in the Nahr al-Barid camp, wounding one civilian and hitting Mahmud as-Sawi's house.

The dissidents and the Ahmad Jibril group opened mortar fire from the Al-'Abdah roadblock, which is in an area controlled by the Syrian forces. The Palestinian Revolution Command asked the commander of the Syrian forces in the north to stop the shelling immediately, since the shells were fired from artillery emplacements in areas controlled by the Syrian forces.

The dissidents and the Jibril group reopened fire at 1200 with all weapons, including heavy machine guns, mortars, and tanks. The

Fatah forces dealt with them, foiled their attacks, destroyed artillery and machine gun positions and armed emplacements, and inflicted heavy losses on them.

PFLP-GC on Clashes

NC242031 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1915 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] An information source in the PFLP-GC Provisional Command Committee stated that at 1030 today, followers of Ahmad Jibril and Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] shelled the defenseless civilians in the Nahr al-Barid camp and the Al-Minya and Al-Baddawi areas, using mortar and heavy artillery. The shelling, which lasted approximately 60 minutes, wounded many civilians. The spokesman said these acts show the despair which has befallen Jibril and his allies, who no longer care where their shells fall. The spokesman affirmed that if this criminal act is repeated against our camps in the north, our feet will reach the positions of these mercenaries, who have sold their conscience and people.

Libyan Intelligence Seizes PLO Offices

NC242040 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1915 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] The Libyan intelligence yesterday seized the Fatah and PLO offices in Tripoli and arrested all employees of the two offices. Unconfirmed reports say that the Libyan intelligence later handed the arrested employees to a group of dissidents who arrived in Tripoli following the incident.

AD-DUSTUR Interviews Fatah's Khalil al-Wazir

JN221010 Amman Ad-Dustur in Arabic 22 Oct 83 p 11

[Khalil al-Wazir, Fatah Central Committee member and deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces — identifiedby his nom de guerre Abu Jihad — grants interview to *Ad-Dustur correspondent Nabil 'Amr in Tripoli; date not* specified]

[Text] *Ad-Dustur*: In your capacity as the military commander of the Palestinian revolution forces, what is the real military position in northern Lebanon?

Abu Jihad: The position is as follows: Recently, the Syrian forces have begun to besiege our forces. This has been their decision with regard to our forces in the mountain, Al-Biqa', and Ba'labakk. Due to the threat to our forces and our desire to avoid a clash with the Syrian forces, our forces left Al-Biqa' to regroup in the north. But as soon as our forces from various parts of Al-Biqa' arrived in Al-Birmil, an attempt was made to deprive them of their heavy, and even personal, weapons. Our forces firmly resisted this attempt, and in the end they were able to overcome all the obstacles placed by the Syrian forces, including the siege mounted by Syrian tank units, and arrived at their base in Tripoli.

Later, the Syrians dispatched armored, infantry, artillery, and rocket reinforcements to mount a siege on the city of Tripoli prior to carrying out a military operation against the revolution forces in the Tripoli area. These Syrian troop concentrations are being reinforced and the siege is being tightened. The Syrian forces are banning any movement by our forces with their weapons. Many of our men have been detained. Several of our officers are being detained and dispatched to the prisons of Syrian intelligence in Damascus. The Syrian forces have also adopted other measures against our forces, but have given every facility, care, and protection to the dissident Fatah forces and the PFLP-GC groups.

Our policy in the north is to avoid any clash with the Syrian forces. Our policy is to avoid any battles in the north. We are exerting all our efforts to avert any sideshows so as not to waste the resources of the Palestinian revolution and the Syrian Army in this region. There is nothing to be gained from such clashes. On the countrary, the clashes would be a pan-Arab loss. They would be a misuse of resources.

We believe that a plan is being carried out to strike at the Palestinian revolution. This plans aims to disarm the revolution, scatter its fighters, and destroy its military strength. A Syrian decision has been made concerning a military operation against the Palestinian forces in the north, and a date has been fixed for the implementation. If the operation has now been postponed it is due to the intensive efforts which have been exerted on all levels.

The question now posed is: Will the Syrian forces go ahead with their plan to fight and destroy the Palestinian revolution forces in the north? Will the decision be carried out? Only time will provide the answer to this question.

Ad-Dustur: What is the position on the Palestine side, and how do you assess your military and political capabilities in this region?

Abu Jihad: From our side, we continue to affirm the fact that we do not want or wish this battle and that we are trying hard to avoid it, because it will only benefit the Israeli enemy and those who want to destroy the Palestinian revolution's strength; in other words, the enemies of thsi nation, the Palestine question, and the Palestinian people.

Ad-Dustur: What is the position of the Palestinian organizations on the siege around Tripoli?

Abu Jihad: We are aware of the difficult circumstances experienced by the Palestinian roganizations in Damascus. By these organizations we mean those that make their own decisions, such as our brothers in the PFLP, the Democractic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and the Palestinian Liberation Front; men who are trying to safeguard their independent decision-making with great effort. We are following the difficult circumstances under which they are operating. We are confident of their loyalty to the cause and the PLO, whose decisions they uphold.

Ad-Dustur: *If the siege on Tripoli was lifted and a settlement* was reached with the Syrian brothers, what do you think would happen?

Abu Jihad: First of all, we are not the ones who are considering a clash. We are also not the ones who are carrying out the continuous massing of troops around the city of Tripoli and also around our forces in the area. Moreover, we are not the ones who are placing obstacles before the movement of the Palestinian revolution forces. It was the Syrian brothers who began that and have continued up to now to escalate the situation against our forces here. All steps to strengthen the dissident forces in Al-Biqa' in their battles in Majdal 'Anjar, Ar-Rawdah, Dayr Zannun, Jdita, Shtawrah, Ta'nayil, Kafr Zayd, 'Abf al-Fa'ur, and Ba'labakk enjoyed the continuous backing of the Syrian forces. What I am saying is not a secret. Everyone knew and followed what went on.

He added: The measures against our forces to compel them to leave their positions in the mountain and Al-Biqa' and later Ba'labakk, what went on in Al-Hirmil, and now the continuous troop concentrations around the city of Tripoli; all these confirm the fact to everyone that the Syrian plan to strike at the Palestinian revolution forces, disarm them, and destroy their military strength and presence in proceeding. For our part, we made continuous appeals and dispatched several emissaries to end the conflict and reach a solution that will end the Syrian measures against the Palestinian revolution forces and the Fatah movement in particular. Unfortunately, all our efforts, contacts, and missions to stop the conflict have achieved no results.

He said: All indications are the Syrians insist on going ahead with their plan. Proof of this is that several Syrian officers have been interrogated for failing to tighten the siege and to carry out orders to disarm our fighters who were besieged in Al-Hirmil. This is another proof that the directives are to go ahead with implementing this plan.

He continued: Despite all the difficult circumstances surrounding us, we are still trying by every means to avoid a conflagration in this region. But at the same time we are watchful. All indications and evidence show they are proceeding with their plan. We have not observed a single practical step on the ground indicating that there has been a change of plans.

Ad-Dustur: What is the real military strength of the dissidents in the Fatah movement?

Abu Jihad: The question is not one of the strength of the dissidents. The main question is the Syrian cover and the Syrian support, which is using these people as a tool in its hands. We view the matter from the angle of the Syrian decision which sponsored these people and used them as a Trojan Horse to destroy the Palestinian revolution. History will record that these people have agreed to become tools to destroy the strength of the Palestinian revolution and to distort 65-year-old heritage of Palestinian struggle.

Ad-Dustur: If the Syrian siege of the Palestinian revolution continued, keeping you away from the arena of struggle with the Zionist enemy, would you consider other forms of struggle?

Abu Jihad: We are now in the basic position of defending the existence of the revolution. If the revolution's main base and existence are harmed, that would mean the destruction of our ability to progress; this is not the first time we have found ourselves in such a position. There have been several occasions in which we found ourselves solely defending the revolution's existence. But this should not prevent us from continuing the struggle in the occupied territory. This struggle must continue in its political and military forms.

We believe that the political struggle inside the occupied territory — a struggle which gives backing and support to the independent Palestinian National decisionmaking which is now threatened by these battles — expresses the close bonds between our Palestinian masses in the occupied homeland and their struggle and the PLO which is waging these battles. This is because any battle fought by our masses in the occupied homeland has a definite impact on Palestinian struggle abroad. Just as any problems faced by the Palestinian revolution abroad have a definite impact on the moral of our people in the occupied homeland.

He added: The struggles inside and outside the occupied territory affect one another. That is why we find that the direct struggle against the Zionist enemy has subsided because of what this revolution is facing. One of our Zionist enemy's objectives is to strike at the revolution's bases abroad in order to weaken this revolution. The effects and results of such strikes become more evident when the revolution is also forced to wage a sideshow such as the current one with the Syrian forces.

Ad-Dustur: Concerning our kinfolk in the occupied territory, do you have any intention to reactivate the Jordanian-Palestinian committee for backing steadfastness?

Abu Jihad: The joint committee for backing steadfastness continues to carry out its tasks. The meetings are expected to be continuous with the presence of our brothers in Amman. Hamid Abu Sittah, Dr Hanna Nasir, and our other brothers are holding continuous meetings with our brothers in Jordan and following up on the committee's tasks. The committee's work has not stopped despite all the PLO's preoccupations. The committee held several meetings some time ago. Very soon, it will hold more meetings. But if these meetings are few and far between, it is because of a delay in the receipt of Arab aid this year. This of course has affected the committee's work and capabilities. When the fraternal Arab states fulfill their obligations and funds are made available, the committee is able to carry out its projects as planned.

He added: The joint committee is a struggle issue. Every effort and support must be given to the committee and to Jordanian-Palestinian cooperation for the sake of the people inside the occupied homeland who must become stronger day after day.

Ad-Dustur: You and the rest of the Palestinian leaders often speak of independent Palestinian decisionmaking. What is your interpretation of this phrase?

Abu Jihad: When we speak of the independent Palestinian decisionmaking we do not for one moment mean a regional decisionmaking. We mean a decisionmaking that is a result of consultations and cohesion between the Palestinians and the Arab nation and its will. We are forced to highlight the Palestinian image because it has always been the victim. The Arab nation's efforts will hige behind this image which we present to the world in the name of the Palestinian banner against which the Zionist enemy is launching aggression because the Palestinian banner is in the Arab nation's heart.

Abu Jihad said: Those who dislike the motto of the independent Palestinian decisionmaking want to usurp this Palestinian right. They claim that this demand is a regional demand, a separatist demand. This is only to cancel our independent decisionmaking. We are waging the battle to defend our rifle which they want to confiscate. We have been preserving this rifle since the beginning of the revolution and we have lost dozens of thousands of martyrs to realize this. Everywhere our people express their adherence to the rifle because it is the symbol of their struggle, dignity, and determination to return to their occupied homeland.

Abu Jihad added: As a Palestinian revolution, we exert all our efforts to avoid a side battle; but when we see insistence on striking at us and liquidating us, we must take a defensive position to preserve our revolution and rifles. Therefore, I say that the current battle waged by the Palestinian revolution is a battle to defend our existence, our revolution and its future, and our right to adhere to our guns. We are certain that the Palestinian masses and the Arab people everywhere stand by us and follow the difficulties we are facing. No doubt they will not hesistate to raise their voices in our support, to defend our revolution's future and destiny, and to preserve its march.

Ad-Dustur: Shamir has recently succeeded in becoming the enemy's prime minister. He declared an expanded settlement plan. What do you say to that?

Abu Jihad: The fact learned from Shamir's plan is that the Zionist enemy is continuing its aggressive policy against our people in the occupied territory, and is implementing its plans to usurp and Judaize the homeland. No doubt, the enemy is indulging in its plans due to our nation's fragmentation. The enemy is viewing with pleasure the side battles and the conflicts that engage our Arab nation and prevent it from confronting the enemy's plans and plots against our people and territory.

Abu Jihad said: Whether Shamir or Peres comes to power, the fact remains that the Zionist enemy wishes annihilation for our nation; that it will always annex and Judaize our land.

[*Ad-Dustur* carries a note saying: To be continued]

GULF AFFAIRS

Gulf States Plan Joint Radar Network

GF241200 Kuwait Arab Times in English 23 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] High level contacts are going on between GCC states and the U.S., Britain, and France to reach an agreement on establishing a huge radar defence network round the Gulf countries for defence against attacks, Western diplomatic sources told the *Arab Times yesterday. The sources did not mention the progress* of these contacts, but said the ideas and proposals of the Gulf countries were being considered.

The proposed defence belt would connect the Gulf states with a comprehensive network of advanced radar and rocket systems. The system would be linked to secret computer installations in each state, and would be capable of detecting all air, sea, and land movements around the borders of the region, the sources said.

Although Saudi Arabia and Kuwait already have defence systems, the proposed project would be comprehensive as it would cover all Gulf states. The sources discounted any connection between the proposed defence network and the current events in the Gulf region, including the Iranian threats to close the Hormuz Straits.

KUWAIT

Pessimism Over Beirut Bombings Expressed

LD241030 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0841 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Kuwait, 24 Oct (KUNA) — Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rashid expressed his pessimism about the consequences of yesterday's incident and warned against the dangers that it could lead to, saying: The effect of the incident on reconciliation in Lebanon depends on the way the Americans think about reacting.

He expected the U.S. Congress to hurriedly hold a special meeting to discuss the matter. Ar-Rashid described what was taking place in the international arena as similar to a prelude to a third world war. He said: The bombing of the headquarters of the U.S. and French forces in Lebanon has shown that Lebanon is truly quicksand. Anyone entering sinks.

The Kuwaiti official put responsibility for what is taking place in Lebanon on the great powers and said: These countries are also responsible for what takes place in all the world's small countries that are considered hotbeds. He stressed that there is no way out of these bloody conflicts except by a meeting of the great powers, in which they will come to an agreement on a plan that will safeguard the position of humanity on earth.

The Foreign Ministry under secretary put the responsibility for what is taking place in Lebanon on U.S. policy and said: The two explosions in Beirut are an extension of explosions that have been taking place in Lebanon since 1978.

As a result of yesterday's explosions, around 200 U.S. and French soldiers were killed, and dozens were wounded or are missing. He added that U.S. policy, which supports Israel in its aggressive policy in Lebanon, has produced the degeneration witnessed in Lebanon. Ar-Rashid thought that it is unlikely that the United States will withdraw its forces from Lebanon and said that it is a great power and thus unlikely to abandon its positions in the Middle East. Its withdrawal from Lebanon would be a big setback.

Regarding the effect of the two operations on Lebanese reconciliation efforts, the Kuwaiti official said that that depends on what the U.S. intends to do. However, he expressed his pessimism over the situation and expressed hope that the United States will adjust its perception of the situation in the region and realize its political mistakes in the Middle East, which are based on giving the Israeli, Zionist, racist policy a free hand in the Middle East region at the expense of Arab peoples and U.S. interests. Ar-Rashid pointed out that France might view the matter differently from the United States. He did not think it unlikely for France to withdraw its forces from Lebanon without giving any consideration to the U.S. position.

Foreign Minister Views Beirut Explosions

LD241042 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0944 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Kuwait, 24 Oct (KUNA) — Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Janir as-Sabah today expressed his hope that the two explosions that destroyed the headquarters of the U.S. and French forces in Lebanon will not affect the efforts to bring about a national reconciliation between the warring political factions in Lebanon. He said that the two explosions yesterday, which destroyed the headquarters of these two forces operating within the Multinational Forces in Lebanon, should not affect the efforts being exerted "to normalize conditions in Lebanon so that it can play its role within the Arab family now that agreement has been reached on the time and place of the national reconciliation conference."

The two sides agreed to hold a conference at the Intercontinental Hotel at Geneva toward the end of this month after the National Salvation Front refused a Lebanese Government proposal to hold the conference at the Beirut International Airport for security reasons.

'Truth' of U.S. 'Lessons' in Beirut Viewed

GF241414 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0900 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Manama, 24 Oct (WAKH) — The Kuwaiti newspapers *Ar-Ra'y al-'Amm* and *Al-Watan* said that if the United States believes that its gigantic forces can scare the world, then the truth which has been discovered, via the actions of Lebanese strugglers, indicates that these gigantic forces are themselves the basic weakness of this superpower.

Ar-Ra'y al-'Amm said that the U.S. forces demonstrated inefficacy, as the aircraft carrier *New Jersey* did — before the people who have made up their minds to undertake struggle, confronta-

tion, and toleration of torture in the defense of their land and their dignity and before an unknown guerrilla who, in one blow, achieved what an army division had failed to attain. The paper indicated that the results of the occupation of Lebanon, the U.S. military presence there, and the exposure of the U.S.-Zionist goals in Palestine and in the region showed — in a relatively short period — that this generation goes to its death unaware, and that the Sixth Fleet is insignificant.

Al-Watan pointed out that the explosion, which took place at the headquarters of the U.S. Marines in Beirut, indicates that there is serious opposition to the presence of these forces in Lebanon. The paper warned against converting Lebanon into a mini-Vietnam. It added that this is a real concern and that it is impossible to control the course of events. The paper added that the U.S. Government now realizes the lesson, which a former U.S. president learned in Vietnam, which is the outcome of further involvement in domestic issues and disputes of peoples. Even so, the paper added, the United States continues to cling to its pretext for interference, which is defending its vital interests.

Concluding, the paper stressed that the Zionist enemy has grasped this bitter lesson before the Americans, who were taught a bloody lesson in Vietnam, and behaved accordingly by carrying out a partial withdrawal from Lebanon and by reducing its military presence.

Official Denies Knowledge of New Jordanian Force

LD231334 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1306 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Kuwait, 23 Oct (KUNA) — Kuwait has denied any knowledge of press reports about the formation of a Jordanian rapid deployment force in the Gulf region. Kuwaiti Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, in reply to a question about the issue, said that Kuwait has no knowledge of this issue nor has any party contacted Kuwait about it.

Press reports in Washington have said that Jordan has set up an 8,000 man force with U.S. training and funding to intervene in the Gulf region in emergency cases.

OMAN

Government Denounces Beirut Explosion

GF241910 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, has expressed the Omani Government's deepest sorrow for the disastrous explosion that occurred at the headquarters of the U.S. and French contingents of the Multinational Peacekeeping Force in Beirut.

In a statement to radio and television correspondents, the minister of state foreign affairs said: The Sultanate of Oman, which is a believer in the principle of dialogue and understanding, strongly denounces this event, which can only lead to the destruction of the peace efforts in fraternal Lebanon. Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah called for exploring all means likely to revive the hope to establish peace and stability so as to preserve Lebanon's integrity and sovereignty in a manner that guarantees equal rights to all parties concerned.

PRC Foreign Minister Arrives on Official Visit

GF210637 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2020 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Muscat, 20 Oct (WAKH) — Wu Xueqian, PRC foreign minister, has expressed his country's hope that a quick solution to the Iran-Iraq war will be found. In a statement to the QNA correspondent after his arrival in Muscat this evening, the PRC official stated that world public opinion is very concerned with this war and with the Middle East situation.

On Omani-PRC relations, the PRC minister praised cooperation between the two countries in various political, trade, and economic fields. He noted that there is similarity in the two countries' points of views on many international problems.

Talks Begin in Muscat

GF220834 Doha QNA in Arabic 0728 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] Muscat, 22 Oct (QNA) — Official Omani-PRC talks began here today under Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, and Wu Xueqian, the PRC foreign affairs minister, who is currently visiting Oman. An official PRC source said the talks will focus on the means of bolstering relations between Oman and the PRC in various fields, particularly trade and economy. In a statement to the QNA correspondent in Muscat, the source said: The talks will also include exchanging views on a number of current international issues, particularly the situation in the region and the developments in the Middle East situation.

The PRC foreign affairs minister arrived in Muscat on Thursday on an official visit to Oman that will last for several days.

Meets Deputy Prime Minister

GF231138 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Qais 'Abd al-Mun'im az-Zawawi, deputy prime minister for financial and economic affairs, received in his office today Wu Xueqian, PRC state councillor and foreign affairs minister, and the delegation accompanying him. They are currently visiting the Sultanate. During the meeting, bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest were discussed. The meeting was attended by the PRC ambassador to Sultanate.

Discusses GCC, Middle East

GF231948 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1850 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Muscat, 23 Oct (WAKH) — Wu Xueqian, member of the PRC State Council and foreign affairs minister, hailed the establishment of the GCC. He said that this council is aimed at economic development and cooperation among its member-states and that it plays an important role in the region. The PRC

minister spoke during a press conference in Muscat this evening about the Iranian threat to close the Strait of Hormuz and said: This matter, if it happens, will undoubtedly influence the situation in the Gulf region. He called on Iran not to make such a move. He also called for ending the war between Iran and Iraq.

Wu Xueqian expressed his concern over what is going on in the Lebanese arena. He said: I see that the tense situation there is due to Israel's aggressive and expansionist policy against the Arab people. He said that the key for settling the Middle East issue lies in achieving unity and solidarity among the Arab countries. Regarding the PRC's position on the Middle East issue and the initiatives proposed in the arena, the PRC minister reiterated his country's firm and constant position on the Palestinian issue. He said that Beijing has backed and is still backing the Arab people. He also affirmed his country's support for the Arab people in their struggle for restoring all the Arab lands occupied by Israel and for restoring the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people.

Regarding his visit to Muscat, the PRC minister expressed his pleasure at the results of the talks which he held with the Omani officials. He described his visit to the Sultanate of Oman as a contribution toward the strengthening of the relations of friendship and cooperation already existing between the two friendly countries.

Meets Deputy Premier

GF232028 Doha QNA in Arabic 1953 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Muscat, 23 Oct (QNA) — Fahar ibn Taymur, Omani deputy prime minister for security and defense affairs, met today with Wu Xueqian, member of the PRC State Council and foreign affairs minister, who is currently visiting the Sultanate of Oman. During the meeting they discussed the strengthening of relations between the two countries in the various fields, especially the security field. The PRC official is expected to leave Oman later today.

QATAR

AL-'ARAB, AR-RAYAH Note Beirut Incident

GF241340 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0840 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Manama, 24 Oct (WAKH) — The Qatari newspapers *Al-'Arab and Ar-Rayah touched on the bombing incidents* directed against the U.S. and the French headquarters in Beirut.

Al-'Arab stressed that what happened to the U.S. Marines in Lebanon yesterday is mere expression of the Lebanese people's rejection of the U.S. presence in their country. The newspaper made an association between the blast and what the U.S. forces perpetrated during their stay in Lebanon. The paper referred to the role played by these forces in the mountain region, which constituted a flagrant challenge to the will of the Lebanese people. The paper pointed out that this challenge is gaining serious dimensions, particularly since the U.S. forces were not peace forces, but merely forces that back one Lebanese side against the other.

The newspaper *Ar-Rayah* said that what took place yesterday in Beirut is merely a routine event that is grave because it paves the way for further violence in Lebanon at a time when everyone is looking forward to the national dialogue conference on neutral ground. The paper added that as most of the reactions denounce the bomb blast incident against the U.S. and French headquarters in Beirut, then this denunciation — even if it were not directed toward a specific side — should not prevent us from seeing the bitter truth this incident unveils.

SAUDI ARABIA

Purpose Behind Beirut Blasts Analyzed

LD241316 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Analysis by Jasir 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Jasir]

[Text] Despite the lapse of over 24 hours after the two explosions at the headquarters of the U.S. and French forces in Beirut, reports are still appearing hourly with higher figures about the number of victims, which is about to reach 200 dead on both the U.S. and French sides. The size of the U.S. losses is by far greater than the French. The number of Americans killed has reached 161. No U.S. military force has suffered such a loss since the Vietnam war 10 years ago.

This high number of victims, plus the recollection by all U.S. papers of the Vietnam war, without exception show the purpose of the two explosions that led to all these victims. Certainly the victims were never the object of the explosion operations. Though the planners and perpetrators of the operations had chosen the headquarters of the U.S. and French forces as the targets for their operations, they did so because these two places represent a symbol of the international involvement in the Lebanese crisis. The object behind the two operations goes beyond the scope of revenge and of killing the highest number of men among the U.S. and French forces. The main objective behind raising the number of victims, which prompted the perpetrators to use huge quantities of explosives, is to create a tragic situation that will prompt the U.S. and French Governments to withdraw their forces from Lebanon or at least to decrease their military and political presence.

The latest response disclosed in Washington is a resort to a compromise based on withdrawing the U.S. forces from the land to the sea and to station them on the U.S. destroyer *New Jersey* and other naval vessels anchored off their Beirut shores. But the U.S. soldiers will still be able to intervene when the need arises.

The important thing is that this and other plans and proposals being discussed in the U.S. capital are united by one common factor: unanimity on keeping the U.S. forces in Lebanon, in whatever form, until peace comes to Lebanon — a peace which everyone is demanding for this country that has been ravaged by civil war.

King Fahd on Arab Summit in University Speech
GF250720 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Speech by Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz at King 'Abd al-'Aziz University in Jidda on 24 October — read by the announcer]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful and the compassionate. Peace be upon the most honorable prophets and our prophet Muhammad, may God be pleased with him. I am delighted to meet brothers and children this evening, on whom we count — aftercounting on God in the first place — in establishing their homeland and in providing progress to this dear homeland.

Our country has no commitments toward anybody. We actually want to be friends with everybody within the framework of our Islamic doctrine and within our national interests. The Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia stems from this great people. We will do our best to keep our dear homeland free from any problems. However, if we are harmed in our doctrine or in our homeland, then in this case self-defense is a legitimate right.

If Arab differences continue in their current framework, which we have been experiencing for years — where this took place a long time ago — [sentence incomplete]. But I believe in one thing, which is that a day will come — and this will not be long, God willing — in which the Arab and the Islamic nations' positions become unified, then there will be respect and appreciation from the East and from the West. When we follow the existing Arab differences, we find that they are marginal or that they are differences which the enemies of the Arab nation exploit.

As has been stated, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is to host the Arab summit conference. We are naturally pleased to have made good preparations for the Arab summit. The Arab summit conference is not a meeting that has to be held at a fixed time or a fixed day, but we have in mind to hold the conference at a fixed time. Since the Kingdom is the host country, it exerted efforts, and it will continue to exert efforts in order to ensure having the conference be a genuine summit conference the Arab nation will be proud of, and which will attain the results that the Arab peoples desire. I do not think that there is any harm if the supreme Arab interests entail the postponement of the summit for 1 or 2 months, or perhaps more or less than that. What is important is that the conference achieves what the Arab nation desires. I say so as I hope that the Arab summit conference, God willing, will be held in its set time. But assuming that it should be postponed for a period, then I do not think that this is anything to cause embarrassment.

The leaders of the Arab nation have to come to the Kingdom, or to any other Arab country, knowing well what steps they can undertake in their conference, which we hope to have meet in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This is what we adhere to. We hope that some of the difficulties will soon be bridged, for if we decide to bridge them, then this will not take more than a few hours [to do] through good intentions.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia desires that the summit conference be unconditionally held in its homeland. We do not set any conditions for anybody. We do not demand anything that is outside the interests of the Arab nation. We are currently holding consultations in order to crystallize the interest of the Arab nation in an Arab framework through which the West and the East will realize that the Arab nation is united as one.

Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud Concludes Tour
LD212324 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2010 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Riyadh, 21 Oct (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, minister of foreign affairs, returned to Riyadh this evening from Dublin after a tour which took him to Tunisia, France, Britain, and Ireland. He held talks with senior officials of those countries on current affairs in the Middle East and international issues of mutual interest.

Defense Minister Returns From Rome Talks
LD212054 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1725 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Riyadh 21 Oct (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general of the Armed Forces, returned to Riyadh today from Rome after a 5-day official visit to Italy.

UAE

AL-KHALIJ Views Attack of U.S. Marines in Lebanon
GF241708 Ash-Shariqah Al-Khalij in Arabic 24 Oct 83 p 1

[Editorial: "The Beginner Is More to Blame"]

[Text] The Multinational Force went to Beirut to supervise the withdrawal of the PLO and Syrian forces in accordance with the agreement reached among the parties concerned in the Lebanese crisis. With the departure of the Palestinian forces from west Beirut the task of the Multinational Force was completed, practically and legally. However, this has not happened at all. What happened is that some of these forces were used in wide-scale search and terrorist operations in west Beirut. The U.S. Marines helped in retraining the Lebanese Army in street fighting and rough-terrain fighting, while the U.S. Defense Department was supplying the Lebanese Army with sophisticated field weapons. Moreover, Reagan succeeded in wresting from Congress approval for the Marines to stay in Lebanon until 1985.

When the Mount Lebanon war broke out — a war that was kindled by Pierre al-Jumayyil with his cry: "Let it be war, and may the strongest party win" — the U.S., French, and British forces gradually intervened on the side of the Phalangist forces and the Lebanese Army. They shelled and strafed the PSP forces, and then a U.S. unit entered Suq al-Gharb in a clear attempt to stop the advance of the Nationalist forces. At this point the Multinational Force became a "force of occupation," and not a friendly force contributing toward the maintenance of peace in Lebanon.

This stand became clear to the Lebanese man-in-the street as well as to the Nationalist Lebanese leaders. The departure of the U.S., British, French, and Italian forces from Lebanon became a firm national demand, just as Israeli withdrawal is a national demand.

What happened yesterday at the headquarters of the U.S. and French forces is not out of the blue. The Americans, the French, and others have transgressed against Lebanon's independence and sovereignty, and shelled some areas of Lebanon with lethal weapons. Yesterday's response — regardless of the party that was responsible for it — confirms the truth of the Arab adage: "The beginner is more to blame."

AL-KHALIJ Warns of U.S. Presence in Gulf

GF230856 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0600 GMT 23 Oct 83

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 23 Oct (WAM) — The Ash-Shariqah newspaper *Al-Khalij* has affirmed that the United States wants nothing but the Gulf oil, that its security is separate from the Arab nation's security, that it wants nothing but a continued Arab and Islamic war in order to keep the Gulf countries far from the right pan-Arab development, and finally, "it wants nothing but the continuation of the outflow of the Gulf countries' oil to the free countries of the world, as affirmed continuously by their leaders."

The paper expressed its fear that "the same U.S. presence in Lebanon might be transferred to the Arab Gulf one day, pointing out the military weapons, equipment, and expertise which the United States is piling up near the Gulf shores and which affirm its wicked intentions against the entire Gulf region."

Al-Khalij said: The United States has never been far from the Gulf in its military ambitions and plans. The presence of any Gulf problem will push the United States to interfere in the region's affairs. This will harm the Gulf peoples' interests and the Arab nation's goal to restore its usurped territories, and will break the unity of the Arab capabilities.

At the conclusion of its editorial, the paper called for putting the region and its future above all considerations and for resuming the efforts without disappointment to quickly extinguish the Iraqi-Iranian fire in order to prevent the U.S. weapon from dishonoring the national sovereignty of the Gulf countries.

Heir Apparent on Joint GCC Air Maneuvers

GF231136 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0755 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Jidda, 23 Oct (WAKH) — H.H. Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid Al Nuhayyan, UAE deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and heir apparent of Abu Dhabi, declared that the establishment of the homeland shield force of the Gulf countries is regarded a first step within the framework of comprehensive strategy.

In an interview with the Saudi daily *'Ukaz* published today, he stated that the aim of this strategy is to achieve a Gulf military unity able to confront any intervention or threats made against any GCC country and to defend the security of the Gulf and its Arab and Islamic identity. He stated that these military cooperation steps will continue between the GCC countries in accordance with the studied plans, which aim at establishing a joint military leadership. He stated that there will be joint air maneuvers by four of the council countries after the great success achieved by the "Peninsula Shield" manuevers, which were held recently in the UAE and which signaled the first unique experience of the cohesion of the armed forces of the six GCC member-countries.

PDRY

Aden Radio Comments on Beirut Explosion

GF241824 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 24 Oct 83

["News and Comment" program by Ja'far 'Aydarus]

[Excerpts] The world followed with deep concern the U.S. Administration's reaction to the explosion at the command headquarters of its forces in Beirut that killed and wounded more than 200 U.S. Marines in Lebanon. The world expected the U.S. Administration, following the heavy losses resulting from this operation, to abandon its former method of viewing this incident and the problems created by the U.S. military presence and U.S. policy in Lebanon, and courageously diagnosed the reasons behind this operation as an expression of the rejection and confrontation of its military presence and its imperialist aggressive and dangerous policy in Lebanon.

But this will not happen. The U.S. Administration repeated its erstwhile method of engaging world public opinion in statements and moves that are irresponsible and unwise and that will not lead to any real settlement to the crisis resulting from the U.S. military presence and U.S. policy in Lebanon and the Middle East, but rather will deepen this crisis by creating wide and dangerous consequences which could jeopardize world peace and security.

The U.S. Administration reacted to the explosion of the headquarters of its forces in Beirut with fanaticism, pride, and threat to use force. The voices more logical and more concerned in U.S. society in order to avoid a repetition of the Vietnam experience in Lebanon and the Middle East were the first to point out the short-sightedness and the aggressive reaction and intentions of Reagan and his administration over the explosion at the headquarters of the U.S. forces in Beirut and the failure of the U.S. policy in Lebanon and the Middle East.

Voices inside government institutions in the United States and inside U.S. society were again raised, calling for the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Lebanon and ending interference in the internal affairs of Lebanon and Arab peoples and stopping its usurping of the role of the international community, as represented by the United Nations, in resolving the region's problems within its Charter and General Assembly.

However, the U.S. Administration is, as is known, instilled with the nature of class interests as seen in the Reagan administration's short-sightedness and adventurism. It will not change its policy and will not analyze the problems of the situation objectively and in a responsible way that will surely lead — after sutdying the explosion of the headquarters of its forces in Lebanon — to the withdrawal of these forces from this country and ending its baseless accusations and threats to use force, and will continue to follow a dangerous aggressive policy that has no future.

Chairman Receives Lebanese CP Secretary

GF221534 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received in his office at the secretariat of the Supreme People's Council Presidium brother Muhasin Ibrahim, secretary general of Lebanon's Communist Action Organization. Cooperation between the organization and the YSP and the means to bolster it were discussed during the meeting.

The new developments in Lebanon and the developments in the Palestinian and Lebanese arenas were discussed too. Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad reaffirmed the support of the PDRY for the Lebanese Nationalist and Palestinian movements in their struggle against the Zionist and facist Phalangist occupation that is supported by U.S. imperialism and Zionism.

Mubarak Condemns Attack on U.S., French Forces

NC251327 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1320 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Alexandria, 25 Oct (MENA) — In a statement to journalists today, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak condemned the recent attack on the U.S. and French contingents of the multinational peacekeeping force in Lebanon.

Answering a question on his opinion of the situation that might arise in the area as a result of the recent Beirut incident, the president said: We should wait and look at what is happening in the area. I hope the subject will be resolved quietly, and we must perceive the dangers surrounding us.

Cairo Radio Comments on Beirut Explosions

NC241523 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Oct 83

['Abd al-'Azim Hammad commentary]

[Text] The role of a political commentator is different from that of a criminal investigator. Therefore, it is not our intention to point an accusing finger at a specific party for yesterday's bloody and regrettable incident in Beirut in which over 320 U.S. and French soldiers were killed or wounded. We must confine our attention to analyzing political circumstances surrounding the incident that could offer a plausible explanation for its motives and its expected consequences.

Initially, we say that events in Lebanon can and must be viewed on three levels — the local, regional, and international. Naturally, these levels might or might not intermix in a specific incident occuring at a specific moment. If we confine our analysis of yesterday's incident in Beirut to the regional and international levels, this incident could be considered merely a link in the chain of settling scores on Lebanon's territory. These scores, on their regional and international levels, are not among the Lebanese but among the parties to the game of international struggle, though they intermix with the regional contradictions in the Middle East.

However, if we take the local level in Lebanon into consideration, there is no explanation for the blowing up of the U.S. and French headquarters in Beirut other than that there is a deliberate attempt to bury the idea of national reconciliation before the talks on national reconciliation start. Naturally, it is not unlikely that some regional and international parties have an interest and hence a role in this attempt.

We do not draw conclusions haphazardly. Those who perpetrated the Beirut incident wanted to start a new series of all-out violence to wreck the cease-fire agreement and with it the idea of national reconciliation. The calculated reaction issued by Italy following the incident could be an indicator that what we are saying is true. The Italian defense minister said his government would reconsider its decision to send new observers to monitor the cease-fire in the Lebaense mountain area. The proposal to send Italian and Greek observers to consolidate the cease-fire in the mountain came from the Lebanese Nationalist Forces.

Even though we do not wish to point an accusing finger at a certain party, this does not prevent us from feeling that those who perpetrated yesterday's regrettable incident in Beirut are the enemies of peace in Lebanon and the enemies of a united and independent Lebanon.

Interior Minister on As-Sadat Plot, Other Topics

Foreign Influence Seen

JN232303 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2215 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 23 Oct (MENA) — Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha said that the incidents which took place on 6 October 1981 and led to the assassination of the late President Anwar As-Sadat were not aimed only at a particular individual in the government but against all of Egypt. The goal was to seize power. Hasan Abu Basha affirmed that the conspiracy was not a local one; foreign hands were clearly and directly involved. He said that the confessions of the leaders of the terrorist organization confirmed that the mastermind of the organization was not Egyptian.

In a statement to Cairo's weekly *May* which will be published tomorrow, Monday, the interior minister said that the dimensions of the conspiracy as revealed by the facts affirm that the aim was to seize power. The killing of President as-Sadat was merely a link in the conspiracy. He said that the assassination of President as-Sadat was only intended to heat up the situation and after that some links would succeed while others would fail.

Hasan Abu Basha affirmed that there were many pieces of evidence and confessions of the organization's leadership that confirm that the head of the organization was not Egyptian but Palestinian. He said that there was another organization which comprised non-Egyptian elements called the Muslim Vanguards which had close links with the first organization, the Jihad organization. He noted that there was a special arrangement through which these elements would act as the go-between with Iranian figures.

The interior minister also affirmed that the documents which were seized with the organization contained the names of opposition leaders who are prominent figures in Egypt and who were supposed to be assassinated. He said that among the plans was the simultaneous blowing up of the biggest mosques and churches in Egypt so that Muslims would think that the Christians blew up the mosques and conversely Christians would think the Muslims blew up the chrches. He said that also among the plans was one to blow up a foreign embassy in Egypt to incite massive sectarian sedition.

Asked whether there are restrictions on the entry of Arab brothers to Egypt, Abu Basha denied the existence of any such restriction. He expressed his readiness to discuss any complaint in this regard. He said that official statistics indicate that the number of Arab visitors to Egypt has multiplied many times over the past 2 years. He said security measures are taken against everyone and that they are ordinary measures which are applied in all countries of the world. These measures, he said, are also applied to Egyptians who arrive from abroad.

The minister affirmed that Egypt is stable, that its people reject terrorism, and that the aim behind the emergency law is to realize stability. He said: When we employ the emergency law to fight terrorism, we do this within the law. He said that freedom of speech is guaranteed. Meetings, political action, and formation of parties are also protected. He said that during the past 2 years not a single newspaper or speech has been banned, nor has any action been taken against any [word indistinct] meeting.

Minister Meets Foreign Correspondents

NC231357 Cairo MENA in English 1245 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, Oct 23 (MENA) — Minister of Interior Hasan Abu Basha confirmed today the continuity of facilities granted to Palestinians in Egypt. In a meeting with foreign reporters here, the minister termed as groundless claims by some of the Palestine Liberation Organization leaders that Egypt has recently expelled 300 Palestinians for being involved in activities in Egypt. He pointed out that in some cases, deportation was due to illegal stay. The minister labelled as untrue claims that Palestinian students will not be admitted to Egyptian universities recalling the fact that thousands of Palestinians are studying and working in Egypt. The minister said that there is no problem regarding Jordanians coming to Egypt, adding that those who seek work permits should follow rules that organize work of non-Egyptians.

Minister Abu Basha declared that the indictment sheet regarding the terrorist group that belongs to a fundamentalist Palestinian organization sent to Egypt to carry out subversive actions will come out soon. The minister declined to elaborate or reveal the organization that sent the subversive group that planned to assassinate some Palestinian figures in Egypt. He denied categorically any help from the Israeli security authorities to arrest members of the group, adding that such claim is untrue.

The minister affirmed that there is no sectarian problems in Egypt and revealed that he met with Pope Shenuda six months ago and that the Pope fully understands the circumstances concerning his position.

In reply to a question on elections and opposition in Egypt, the minister of interior pointed out that the percentage of electorate in the recent Shura Council elections was reasonable. He said that six million voters proceeded to ballot centres adding that the opposition's boycott in protest against the absolute list system was one of the reasons that made voters lack enthusiasm to participate in the elections. He went on to say should the opposition had popular bases it would have been able to attain some success as the elections were held in an atmosphere of absolute neutrality from the side of official bodies. The minister further said that since the assumption of power by President Mubarak, the opposition parties were given complete freedom of expression, partisan activities and freedom to approach masses. Minister Abu Basha made it clear that the 8 percent set as a condition for a party representation in the parliament does not constitute any obstacle for any party that plans to join the forthcoming parliamentary elections particularly when every party enjoys freedom to approach masses and to express its viewpoint with guarantees for fair elections.

On reports that opposition newspapers were prevented from publishing excerpts and chapters from Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal's "Autumn of Fury" the interior minister said that several newspapers have published chapters of the book and many commentaries and analyses were published.

Asked about the security in the country Abu Basha stressed that Egypt nejoyed stability, denying reports that terrorist acts have taken place on the borders with Libya.

He further described the emergency law as just a law to stem terrorism.

Asked to comment on the extent of rejection expressed by Egyptian students towards the Israeli policy in Lebanon, Abu Basha said that sutdents like the rest of the Egyptian public opinion opposes the situation in Lebanon.

Abu Basha declined to comment on reports that the Soviet Union still interferes in Egypt's internal affairs, and said any question in this respect could be directed to the foreign minister.

This is the first time that the interior minister meets with foreign correspondents in an open dialogue.

Communique on 23-24 Oct War Operations Issued

JN241812 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1740 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Communique No 1,258 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 24 October 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Then taste ye the penalty, for that ye were wont to deny truth. [Koranic verse]

Our heroic Armed Forces are fighting the greedy enemies with th sword of right, justice, and dignity, scoring heroic epics and immortal victories through their brave, historic stand against the vicious Khomeyniite onslaught. They are fighting in defense of the sovereignty and sanctities of cherished Iraq and the glories and history of the Arab nation. The results for yesterday and today are as follows:

1. As a result of the enemy's abject defeats which inflicted large losses on its aggressor forces during the past few days' battles in the northern sector of the battlefield, the enemy embarked on a reckless hostile action once again on the night of 23-24 October 1983. The enemy launched an attack on our units in the Panjwin area and on some heights. Our vigilant units confronted and clashed with the enemy forces in fierce battles in which all types of weapons were used. Our valiant units then managed, with the support of our striking artillery and capable fighter planes and helicopter gunships, to repulse, crush, and foil all the enemy attacks, inflicting large losses in men and equipment.

Meanwhile, our units launched several strong attacks against the enemy units in the same areas, dealing them painful blows and adding many other losses to their previous losses.

The known enemy losses so far counted amounted to more than 1,500 killed and a large number wounded. The dead enemy troops and destroyed weapons are still littering the battlefield.

In another area in the same sector our forward units found more than 500 dead enemy troops with their destroyed weapons and equipment. They were killed in the last 2 days' battles and were not mentioned among the enemy losses in our previous communiques.

2. With a fighting and storming spirit and with a sense of rivalryin carrying out missions and inflicting the largest possible losses on the enemy, our bold fighter planes and helicopter gunships continued their violent raids against the enemy positions and units in the I Army Corps sector all day long today, dealing strong and direct blows and inflicting massive losses in men and equipment. Numbers of burned tanks, vehicles, and quantities of various types of weapons and equipment were seen scattered everywhere in the battle areas. Other formations of our fighter planes and helicopter gunships launched concentrated attacks against the enemy units and troop concentrations in the battlefield as well as against the enemy concentrations and camps deep inside its territory. These attacks, which were carried out in coordination with our valiant units, were extremely effective and successful. The enemy was amazed by these attacks, which caused the destruction of its weapons and equipment. All our fighter planes and helicopter gunships returned safely to base, praise be to God.

Our fighter planes today carried out 147 combat missions, while our helicopter gunships carried out 77 combat missions.

3. One of our forward units opened fire on an enemy concentration opposite our positions east of Basra, killing eight and destroying one excavator and three weapons and pesonnel positions.

4. One of our combat patrols carried out an operation against the enemy positions opposite our forward units' positions in the central sector of the battlefield, destroying two personnel positions and capturing some intact light weapons. The enemy also sustained six killed and others wounded elsewhere in the same sector.

5. One was killed and three observation posts were destroyed in the Maysan sector.

6. The evil Khomeyniite regime today shelled Mandali and its suburbs and Khurmal and Sayyid Sadiq and their suburbs with artillery, damaging some civilian establishments in Mandali, Khurmal, and Sayyid Sadiq.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 October 1983

Commander Says Second Iranian Offensive Defeated

JN241842 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1750 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Oct (INA) — From the INA mission in the Panjwin sector — The commander of the I Army Corps has declared that the second offensive which the Iranian enemy began last night has been foiled and defeated. Speaking to the INA mission in the Panjwin sector tonight, the commander said that the enemy employed more than five divisions and Khomeyni guards along six axes, five of which were directed at Panjwin and the surrounding positions. The commander said that the enemy suffered thousands of casualties and the destruction of a great number of armored cars, vehicles, and other military equipment. The results were amazing because of the great number of enemy soldiers killed during the offensive.

The commander said that those who were not killed in the battle died psychologically because the great offensive which was supported by great numbers of regular troops and Khomeyni guards did not realize any of its aims. He said that the enemy was surprised by a new power and plans which are not familiar to military men in the world. He said that the enemy's large-scale attack was directed against the entire frontline north and south of Panjwin but the Iraqis confronted the enemy forces and inflicted heavy losses on them.

The commander said: We confronted the enemy with new methods and weapons. We used helicopters against enemy troops and Khomeyni guards during the night and just before dawn today. This was not expected by the enemy.

He also said that the enemy sent a number of tank and armor columns north and south of Panjwin hoping to score any success, however small. However, the enemy met with abject failure, and its tanks were abandoned by their crews. The commander said that in today's battle our forces were luckier than they were in previous battles in this sector. Several formations took place in this battle facing the enemy, which outmatched them in number. Our forces, he said, hunted their prey in each area very quietly without any confusion or change in plans.

Field Commander Informs President of Battles
JN241845 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Staff Field Marshal President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, has received a message from the commander of the I Army Corps. The following is the text of the message:

From the commander of the I Army Corps to the victorious president and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, may God protect him.

Mr president: Since 2000 yesterday evening, your valiant soldiers have been fighting the treacherous enemy with unparalled ferocity and courage. The enemy carried out its treacherous attack along the entire front, south, east, and north Panjwin. Despite the ferocity of the fighting and the long day and night hours of the fiercest battles in Panjwin, your soldiers, the fighters of the various ground formations, the brave knights of the helicopters, detachments , and volunteers [words indistinct] the lofty Iraqi fighter inflicting on the enemy losses that greatly surpassed the entire number of the fighters in the formations' positions. Until now the fighting and the steadfastness of the heroes continues for Iraq's glory and the principles of the revolution and in order to uphold the banner of the cherished president, the big brother, leader of the people and nation, leader of victory, and the creator of rennaissance and glory. May this spiteful enemy, his followers who are the traitors of the people and homeland, the agents of Zionism like Al-Asad and Al-Qadhdhafi, and all those who follow their treasonous course be disgraced.

The valiant Ar-Rashid Forces will continue to fight inspired by your fortitude and determination and embody the epics of our great leaders Sa'd ibn Abu Waqqas, Harun Ar-Rashid, and 'Ali ibn 'Isa ibn Mahhan. May the banner of Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah continue to be lofty, God willing. We will fulfill our promise as a proud and supreme army.

[Signed] Staff major general, commander of the I Army Corps

Papers on Right To Strike Anywhere in Iran
JN230828 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0740 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Oct (INA) — Two Iraqi papers have affirmed that Iraq has reserved for itself the right to strike at the Iranian aggressors wherever it deems necessary to make them understand that their desperate attempts to prolong the war will not achieve any of their evil designs.

Ath-Thawrah, organ of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, today says: It is time the suspect Iranian rulers were forced to abandon their evil intentions and expansionist ambitions and made to understand that their intransigence and insistence on continuing their aggressive war will cost them dearly.

The paper affirms that Iraq has the fighting capabilities and sophisticated military means to enable it to force the Iranian rulers to give up their stupidities and reckless military adventures. Iraq also has the adequate means to regain all its legitimate national interests and rights to security, progress, and prosperity.

Ath-Thawrah points out that the defeat of this last Iranian offensive will undoubtedly further worsen and fragment the enemy's military, internal, and economic situations.

Concluding, the paper reaffirms that the results of this reckless Khomeyniite adventure will widen the gap between the Khomeyniite clique in Tehran and the Iranian peoples who have been afflicted by this clique and place the criminal Khomeyniite clique on the course of total collapse and its inevitable end.

Commenting on the same subject, *Al-Jumhuriyah* says charlatan Khomeyni's problem is that he has not achieved success in any field and that failure has been his lot.

The paper says that Khomeyni's hatred for Iraq is not just part of the historical hatred which the Persians harbor for the Arabs, but has also become a mortal personal hatred for Iraq — homeland, leadership, and people.

Al-Jumhuriyah says that charlatan Khomeyni considers Iraq's success, prosperity, and advancement a reflection of his own failure. This is why he pooled all his remaining resources in this attempt. He has thus used up all his assets and is now on the verge of bankruptcy. It will not be long before Khomeyni bites his fingers in regret. After that, there will be nothing left but for Khomeyni to choke to death in anger, the paper concludes.

President on Striking Deep Inside Iran
JN241749 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1655 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Oct (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has said that Iraq belongs to the noble Iraqis in the first place and to the (?Arab) nation and humanity as a whole. Addressing a group of people from the Diyala area who came to contribute to the war effort here today, the president said that it is our duty to defend Iraq and we will, therefore, deal strong blows at the enemy and at those who want to harm Iraq even if this means strikes at targets deep inside Iran. The president said: We did this 2 days ago and we will repeat our deterrent, destructive strikes as long as they continue their aggressive actions against Iraqi territory. We will rub the faces of the suspect, expansionist Iranians in the dust. He said that Iraq did not fight Khomeyni with 14 million people but with 24 million. This is because of the great men of Kurdistan and not because of the 14 million Arabs and Kurds.

The president said that for each bomb that destroys one of our houses we will destroy something in retaliation. This is our legitimate right. An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth, and aggressions must be punished. The president said that the defense of Iraq is our duty. Therefore, we will deal crushing blows to all those who harm Iraq even if it means striking deep inside Iranian territory.

President Thanks Citizens for War Donations
JN222038 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Speech by President Saddam Hsuayn at a 22 October meeting with citizens from At-Ta'mim Governorate who contributed gold and money to the war effort — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Applause] First of all, I would like to welcome the Arab brothers from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. There are also among you Iraqis who are residing in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. Greetings to them, as they have come from far away. Secondly, I would like to welcome the At-Ta'mim people.

In the not too distant past, when the name of Kirkuk used to be mentioned — Kirkuk is now the capital of At-Ta'mim Governorate — we used to remember the wealth existing under its soil. At the same time, we used to feel bitter because this wealth went to others and not to its owners. The oil used to go to the foreign companies and to the countries of these foreign companies. They benefited from it in order to build hospitals and roads and to secure a higher standard of living, while our people there were barefoot.

The situation has now changed. The At-Ta'mim oil is now the property of the At-Ta'mim citizens and the Iraqis. It is no longer the property of others. The first decision of defiance that the Iraqis adopted, one which promised them a prosperous future, was the decision to nationalize oil. [applause]

The nationalization decision was the beginning of the great defiance of the foreign forces. Welcome to the At-Ta'mim citizens and to the Arabs and Iraqis who are residing in the Arab countries and who, out of solidarity with their brother Iraqis, came to participate with their Iraqi brothers in their just fight against the injustice coming from Persia. We shall continue to fight injustice until it fails or becomes impotent so that Iraq's banner may remain fluttering high. [applause]

Statement Issued on UN Founding Anniversary
JN232250 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1950 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Oct (INA) — Iraq has called on the international community to take more resolved positions to force the Iranian side to adhere to the UN resolutions that call for a cease-fire and negotiated solution for the conflict. In a statement on the anniversary of the founding of the United Nations tomorrow, the Iraqi Government said that despite the repeated UN calls for a cease-fire, Iran continued and is still continuing its armed aggression against Iraq in a desperate attempt to penetrate the international border. Iran's latest aggression was the abortive aggression in the Panjwin sector.

The statement said that Iraq reiterates its support for the United Nations and expresses its readiness to cooperate with the UN secretary general to strengthen the United Nations and increase its effectiveness to serve its interests and noble aims in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter.

The Iraqi Government expressed hope that the United Nations will be able to promote its own efficiency and overcome the difficulties facing it so as to be able to implement its resolutions, serve the peoples of the world, and support the causes of justice and freedom in the world. The Iraqi Government said that an example of the UN inability to carry out its mission, as is required of it, is the injustice meted out to the Arab nation by the UN resolution to partition Palestine and create the Zionist entity and the subsequent dispersion of the Palestinian people from their homeland, Palestine; their exposure to annihilation and suffering; and their inability to exercise their inalienable rights, including their right to return to Palestine, to self- determination, and to establish their independent state.

On the Iraqi-Iranian war, the government said that Iraq believes that the United Nations constitutes a forum for international discussions to solve disputes among states by peaceful means. Iraq, therefore, presented the war issue to the United Nations and other international bodies such as the Nonaligned Movement and the Islamic Conference Organization. All of these organizations responded to the calls for solving the dispute by peaceful means. The statement said that Iraq, which is convinced of the justice of its cause and of the soundness of its stand, has called on the international community to arbitrate in this war which has been raging for a long time. The statement pointed out that despite the UN appeals for a cease-fire, Iran continued and is still continuing its armed aggression against Iraq in desperate attempts to penetrate Iraq's borders. The latest of these attempts was the recent offensive against the Panjwin sector which ended in abject failure.

The statement also said that Iran's continuing aggression and the Iranian rulers' rejection of every effort to realize peace shows their expansionist intentions and their irresponsible behavior with regard to the region's stability and security, something which might lead to further trouble, escalation of the international power struggle, and a threat to world peace and security. The statement said that Iraq is defending its legitimate rights by confronting Iran's aggression against its borders and territory with courage and determination, and is seeking the means for realizing peace.

The Iraqi Government statement stressed that Iraq will continue its support for the United Nations to promote its effectiveness in satisfying people's aspirations, especially with regard to the proposals aimed at changing the world economic order, making it more just so as to satisfy the aspirations of the peoples of the world. The statement said that Iraq is ready to cooperate with the UN secretary general to strengthen the United Nations and promote its effectiveness in order to serve its own objectives and noble aims in accordance with the UN Charter principles.

Ambassador in New Delhi Wounded by Gunman

BK251110 Hong Kong AFP in English 1055 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] New Delhi, Oct. 25 (AFP) — Jordanian ambassador to India, Muhammad 'Ali Khurma, was shot and seriously wounded by an unidentified gunman today as he was walking from the embassy to his residence here, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) said quoting police sources. The ambassador, who was taken immediately to the U.S. Embassy hospital here with six bullet wounds on his right [as received], was said to be in a serious condition.

Police said that Mr Khurma was walking from the embassy to his residence nearby at around 2:30 P.M. (0900 GMT) when an unidentified man fired a dozen bullets from an automatic weapon. Police claimed to have recovered eight spent cartridges from the site.

Police have cordoned off the Jordanian Embassy and surrounding area and started an immediate search for the assailant.

This was the second incident of shooting of diplomats in the Indian capital in a year. A senior Kuwaiti diplomat was gunned down last year. Police have yet to trace the killer.

PTI quoted eyewitnesses who said the assailant, wearing a light blue Kurta loose shirt, followed the ambassador as he was leaving for his residence for lunch. The gunman then fired over half a dozen rounds at Mr. Khurma, who slumped down in a pool of blood. As the assailant walked away unchallenged, he threatened a cobbler sitting nearby, eyewitnesses said.

Embassy officials said the diplomat sustained six bullet wounds and had lost a lot of blood.

Delhi Radio Report

BK251244 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1234 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] The Jordanian ambassador in India, Mr Muhammad 'Ali Khurma, was shot at by an unidentified gunman near his residence in New Delhi this afternoon. He was rushed to hospital in a serious condition. The police, quoting hospital sources, said the conditon of the ambassador after treatments is improving. The embassy premises have been cordoned off and messages have been flashed to trace the assailant.

AD-DUSTUR on U.S. Accusations Against Syria

JN220950 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0520 GMT 22 Oct 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Confrontation and the Scenario for Solution," *Ad-Dustur* says: The U.S. accusations and the implied threats which President Reagan made against Syria at his news conference 2 days ago may indicate a new stage in the continued tug-of-war game between Damascus and Washington, not only over Lebanon but also over a large-scale role which Syria wants to assume but which Washington rejects. This is in addition to the storng Israeli opposition to this role.

Regardless of the tough language of the U.S. campaign, which was faced by similar Syrian statements, this campaign came after the Lebanese political settlement proposal had been obstructed and the U.S. Marines have been exposed to more losses. All evidence shows that the Lebanese crisis constitutes only one part of the differences. The U.S. accusations were made by the U.S. President himself, and not by one of his secretaries, assistants, or the great number of official spokesman at the White House and the Department of State. This makes us assume that the United States wants to utilize greater weight in its Lebanese policy, which has not yet achieved much success despite the heavy military presence in Lebanese territorial waters.

These accusations also included new factors which were not mentioned before by U.S. officials on Syria. They came directly in the wake of the National Security Council meetings under the new chairman, MaFarlane, who has just arrived from Damascus to assume his high-ranking post in the U.S. Administration.

Ad-Dustur adds: If we recall the U.S. campaign which, a few days ago, warned against an upset in the balance of power in the region due to the new Soviet missile shipment to Syria, then we can say that the Syrian-U.S. dialogue has reached at this stage a knotty point which could lead to stopping this dialogue or continuing it by other means.

Ad-Dustur concludes: The continuation of the stalemate in the Lebanese and Middle East situations cannot remain forever. Thus, it is essential to remove the obstacles and reactivate the issue, which has remained frozen for a long time. What seems these days to be a conforntation between Washington and Damascus will either end in a political settlement between them at a price to be paid by parties in and around Lebanon or in a military confrontation. Then, the fire of battles will extend to many places. Israel may be the big winner.

Daily Urges Iran To End War With Iraq

JN230955 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 23 Oct 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Developments in the Gulf War," *Ad-Dustur* says: The defeat suffered by the invading Iranian force at the hands of the heroic Iraqi forces should make the Tehran rulers learn a few lessons. Foremost of these is that the Iraqi front, which is strongly defended by the Army and people, is impenetrable. The hand which Iraq is extending for peace and reconciliation [sulh] is a strong one which does not lack various means to reply storngly, firmly, and capably when necessary.

The paper adds: In view of the Tehran rulers' intransigence and insistence on continuing the fighting and the war — at a time when Iraq is responding to all peace efforts — the Gulf war has taken a turn which gives fraternal Iraq every right to use all its military resources to deter the aggression and strike at Iran's financial and economic lifeline in the hope that the Iranian rulers

will come to their senses and realize that a just peace is the solution, and not war which has continued for more than 3 years causing great human and material losses to both countries. The action taken by the forces of fraternal Iraq in mining Bandar-e Khomeyni is only the first step toward putting the Iraqi threat to Iran, as communicated to the United Nations recently, into effect at sea and on land.

Ad-Dustur says: Considering the enormous Iraqi military capabilities, which no one doubts are overwhelmingly superior in the air, the Iraqi Army is now expected to continue to deal painful blows to Iranian economic projects, as was the case yesterday in Bandar-e Khomeyni, in order to show Iran the clear fact that peaceful negotiations are the only means to end the war and maintain neighborly relations.

The world, while viewing the recent developments in the Gulf war, cannot but place the full responsibility on Iran, which has turned a deaf ear to all peace calls, closed the door in the face of all all mediations, and continued with a war in which it could not win a single position.

Ad-Dustur concludes: We have seen in the recent developments fresh proof of Iraqi superiority and ability in this war, an ability which has been confirmed by all previous battles. We hope the Tehran rulers will emerge from their delusion that they could defeat the Iraqi people and Army and the Arab Gulf people and resort to peace, which has always been a noble Iraqi objective from the position of strength and ability.

Mudar Badran Receives PSP Leader Junblatt

JN231538 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Amman, 23 Oct (JNA) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran received at his office this morning Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party [PSP]. They reviewed recent developments in the Lebanese arena and circumstances pertaining to the preparation of the National Reconciliation Conference.

Canada's MacEachen Begins Visit 24 October

JN241722 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Allan MacEachen, Canadian deputy prime minister and secretary of state for external affairs, arrived in Amman this afternoon on a 3-day official visit to Jordan. Marwan al-Qasim, Jordanian minister of foreign affairs; Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari ambassador in Amman and dean of the diplomatic corps; the Foreign Ministry's secretary general; the director of the International Relations Department at the Foreign Ministry; and the Canadian ambassador in Amman received the Canadian official.

MacEachen is accompanied by his assistant for foreign policy, the director of the Middle East Department at the Canadian Foreign Ministry, and the Canadian ambassador in Amman.

Foreign Ministers Hold Talks

JN241858 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] The Jordanian side led by Marwan al-Qasim, Jordanian minister of foreign affairs, and the Candaian side led by Allan MacEachen, Canadian deputy prime minister and secretary of state for external affairs, held talks at the Foreign Ministry this evening. The talks dealt with various current international issues, including the situation in the Middle East, the Palestine question, the painful situation in Lebanon, and the Iraqi-Iranian war. The talks also dealt with bilateral relations and the possibility of promoting them in the various fields.

The two ministers expressed satisfaction with the cordial atmosphere that prevailed inthe talks and emphasized their desire to increase and develop cooperation in various spheres.

Present on the Jordanian side were the Foreign Ministry's secretary general and a number of senior Foreign Ministry officals. On the Canadian side, the guest delegation and the Canadian ambassador in Amman attended the talks.

Continuing Reportage on Aftermath of Explosions

Islamic Group Claims Responsibility

NC241403 Paris AFP in English 1345 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Beirut, Oct 24 (AFP) — The Islamic Jihad Organization today claimed responsibility for a double bombing which killed 200 U.S. and French peace-keeping troops here yesterday. The attack was first claimed yesterday by the pro-Iranian Free Islamic Revolutionary Movement.

The Islamic Jihad group has claimed several bloody attacks in Lebanon, notably the bombing which killed over 60 at the U.S. Embassy here on April 18.

In telephone calls here, a spokesman said: "We carried out this operation against the imperialist-reactionary bastions to prove to the world that we are not afraid of their fleets and artillery".

"We are soldiers of God and in love with death," the caller added, "We are neither Iranian, nor Syrian, nor Palestinian — We are Lebanese Moslems who follow the teachings of the Koran.

"After our earlier operations against the American Embassy, we warned that our next blow would be violent...today they know who they are dealing with.

"We do not want anyone in Lebanon, neither the Israelis, nor the Syrians. We want an Islamic republic even if this means war.

"Violence will be our only path if they do not leave, as we are prepared to make Lebanon a second Vietnam," the caller concluded.

194 American, 54 French Deaths

NC250844 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0832 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] We have just received the following information from the Civil Defense Operations room: The number of French martyrs has risen to 54. Seven bodies were removed between 0130 and 0400; two bodies were removed between 0700 and 0720; the body of a French soldier was removed at 0940; another body was removed at 1013; and yet another body was removed at 1024, that is 6 minutes ago. The number of French victims is now 54.

As for the Marine martyrs, the number has risen to 194. The body of a Marine was removed at 0900; another body was removed 30 minutes later, and a third body was removed at 1010.

Marine Deaths at 195

NC250913 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Excerpt] As the rescue operations are continuing to remove the rubble at the demolished Marines' building on the airportroad and the French force's building in the (Al-Janahi)locality, the Civil Defense Operations Room told us that the number of U.S. Marines victims reached 195 martyrs at 1045.

300 Marine Replacements Arrive

NC250924 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] A Marine spokesman in Beirut has said that 300 Marines have arrived in Beirut from the United States via West Europe to replace those who were killed in the explosion. More Marines are expected to arrive in Beirut later.

Marines on Alert

NC251026 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] A state of alert has been announced in the ranks of the Marines. The soldiers went to their fortified positions following information about attacks they might be exposed to by booby-trapped cars. Marines Spokesman Bob Jordan has said that reports have indicated that three trucks loaded with explosives were driving around the Beirut International Airport.

Marine Corps Commandant Arrives

NC251235 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] General Paul Kelley, commandant of the Marine Corps, arrived in Beirut today to discuss the means to adopt new security measures. Immediately upon his arrival, Gen Kelley decorated the Marine martyrs with U.S. medals of distinction.

Security Arrangements Committee Condemns Explosions

NC241456 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1347 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] The Security Arrangements Committee meeting ended a short while ago. The committee met in the presence of all its members: Staff Colonel Jean Nasif, for the Army; Dr Jean Ghanim, for the Lebanese Front; Dr Ayyub Humayyid, for the Amal Movement; and Wahbi Abu Fa'ur, representing the National Salvation Front. This is the 17th session of the committee in the presence of all its members. The committee reviewed the current security situation in the light of the new developments. It approved the following:

1. To condemn and denounce the two explosions that the French and U.S. forces were subjected to. Such actions will not serve the reconciliation process that all the parties are seeking.

2. To devote the efforts of all the committee's members to dealing with the repeated cease-fire violations by adopting effective and immediate measures to remedy any situation, thus affirming the leaderships' desire to calm the situation and consolidate the cease-fire.

3. To once again thank the British contingent deployed with the Multinational Force — which is guarding the committee's headquarters — because by this action it is primarily contributing to the continued meeting among the representatives of the parties, and subsequently to solving many important issues.

Beirut To Invite Syria, Saudi Arabia to Meeting
NC251019 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] A diplomatic source said that [Saudi envoy] Rafiq al-Hariri is expected to arrive in Beirut today to follow up his consultations and contacts with senior officials and with the invitees to the[National] Dialogue Conference in Geneva on Monday. The source said that Lebanon will extend two official invitations tomorrow to Saudi Arabia and Syria to send their observer delegates to the conference.

VOL: Syrian Intelligence Men Entered Beirut
NC221319 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that Syrian intelligence officers have entered the southern suburbs [of Beirut] with forged identity cards and have begun contacting some quarters linked to the Syrian departments. It has been learned that a high-ranking Syrian intelligence officer called Ahmad Khalil has established a headquarters for himself at a certain embassy in Beirut.

Shi'ite Suicide Squad Noted; Junblatt Warns U.S.
NC241908 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] A French journalist, Eric Rouleau, has revealed that an official of the Shi'ite movement informed him a month ago in Paris that a Shi'ite suicide squad was going to attack the French contingent and the U.S. Marines.

Commenting on yesterday's tragedy, [Progressive Socialist Party leader] Walid Junblatt today said that such actions could be resumed if the United States insisted on maintaining its troops in the Middle East and supported the policy of the present Lebanese Government.

Mitterrand Meets Al-Jumayyil; Departs 24 October
NC241336 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Our correspondent at the airport, Darwish 'Ammar, indicated a short while ago that French President Francois Mitterrand left Beirut airport about 15 minutes ago at the end of his unexpected visit to Beirut. During his visit he met with President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil, Speaker Kamil al-As'ad, and Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan. He inspected the French contingent's headquarters which was destroyed by yesterday's explosion. He also inspected the Marines building, which was also destroyed by an explosion. During his visit, President Mitterrand met with French officers and members of the French contingent.

Hernu Leaves With Mitterrand
NC241537 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1525 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Dispatch by radio correspondent Darwish 'Ammar from Beirut airport — live]

[Text] After taking part in the bilateral summit held today between President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and French President Francois Mitterrand, French Defense Minister Charles Hernu left Beirut at about 1715 today returning home aboard the special plane that brought him to Beirut yesterday. He is accompanied by General Lacaze, French chief of staff, in addition to the French military delegation that accompanied him on his visit to Lebanon. Hernu proceeded to the plane amid strict security measures adopted by the appropriate security authorities at Beirut International Airport. He was seen off by Defense Minister 'Isam Khuri, Army Commander General Tannus, the French ambassador, the commander of the French contingent of the Multinational Force, and senior members of the French Embassy in Beirut. The French minister made no statement but proceeded directly to the plane.

Spadolini 'Rules Out' Beirut Troop Withdrawal
AU241517 Rome ANSA in English 1508 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] (ANSA) Rome, October 24 — Italian Defense Minister Giovanni Spadolini today ruled out a withdrawal of Italian troops from Lebanon following Sunday's twin suicide bomb attacks on the American and French troop quarters.

"The latest atrocious tragedy in Beirut attacks the Multinational Force at a time when the goal of peace appeared nearer with the beginning of talks in Geneva and it is for the achievement of that goal that the Americans, French, Italian and British support the sacrifice of remaining in Lebanon", Spadolini said here this morning.

The minister added that the French and American mourning is also felt by Italy. "We cannot turn our backs on Lebanon and friendly nations. We cannot renege our duty for peace in the Meditterranean.

"We will not lower our heads before terrorism.... which wants anarchy in the Mideast with incalculable consequences for world peace.

"We will wait for the results of the Geneva talks where the Lebanese political forces convene on October 31 and only then will we be able to base our attitude on all the issues, including the possibility of sending observers to the Ash-Shuf mountains to monitor the cease-fire".

Al-Jumayyil Confers With Canada's MacEachen
NC211100 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil reviewed with the Canadian secretary of state for external affairs the situation in

Lebanon in light of the current developments. The Canadian secretary will later today meet with Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim. Allan MacEachen, Canadian secretary of state for external affairs, arrived in Beirut from Damascus within the context of a tour of the area that will take him to Egypt and Israel to follow up closely the situation in Lebanon and the area. The Canadian secretary will leave Beirut for Cairo this afternoon.

Canadian Secretary Ends Visit

NC211614 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] The Canadian secretary of state for external affairs has concluded his talks in Lebanon with President al-Jumayyil and Foreign Minister Salim and left for Cairo.

At a news conference held at the Foreign Ministry before his departure, the Canadian minister spoke about Canada's support for Lebanon's sovereignty, unity, territorial integrity, and national reconciliation. He revealed that he had met with Walid Junblatt in Damascus since they happened to be staying in the same hotel. He pointed out that the meeting was not official, but provided an opportunity to exchange views. He denied that he conveyed any message from Junblatt to President al-Jumayyil and Minister Salim. He said his country will consider participating in the peacekeeping force if it was requested by the Lebanese Government, provided this force comes under UN control. He maintained that the establishment of peace and achievement of reconciliation in Lebanon is a difficult matter that requires goodwill.

Al-Jumayyil To Visit Switzerland 29 October

NC241848 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Joint statement issued in Beirut and Bern by Lebanese and Swiss Governments — date not given]

[Text] In response to an invitation by His Excellency Pierre Aubert, president of the Swiss Confederation, His Excellency President Amin al-Jumayyil, president of the Lebanese Republic, will visit Bern on Saturday, 29 October 1983, for talks with his host on the situation in the Middle East in general and in Lebanon in particular. President al-Jumayyil will stay in Bern for 2 days, after which he will go to Geneva to preside over the Lebanese national dialogue, which will start at the beginning of next week.

NSF Leaders To Meet in Damascus 25 October

JN241130 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, left Amman for Damascus this morning at the end of a 24-hour visit to Jordan. During his stay in Amman he was received by Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran.

A meeting is expected to be held in Damascus tomorrow comprising Walid Junblatt, Sulayman Franjiyah, and Rashid Karami, members of the Lebanese National Salvation Front, [NSF] to come to an agreement on a unified stand toward the agenda of the National Dialogue Conference expected to be held in Geneva on 31 October.

PSP Lists 'Minimum Level of Peaceful Practices'

JN250745 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus — A responsible source from the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] made the following statement yesterday: In spite of the successive warnings the PSP made concerning the cease-fire violations on all fronts, the [Lebanese] Army and the Phalangist militias continue to insist on carrying out military escalation. They are doing this by their continued sniper fire and shelling on all the mountain areas, particularly the Suq al-Gharb sector; and by using all types of weapons, including artillery, in their daily shelling of 'Alayh with the purpose of expelling its civilian citizens.

The PSP is also closely following the stockpiling of weapons and the concluding of agreements by the Army and the Phalangists, particularly the agreements to purchase tanks and heavy artillery. These operations and deals expose their premeditated intention to reignite the war and to attack the nationalists in the [southern Beirut] suburbs and the mountain.

While we are at the threshold of the National Dialogue Conference in Geneva, and out of our concern to render this conference a success, we believe that the Phalangist rule and its Army must remain completely committed to the minimum level of peaceful practices in the following manner:

1. The need to abide completely by the cease-fire and to spare the shedding of blood of more innocent citizens, who are falling haphazardly as a result of the shelling being dong by the Army and the Phalangists. This is to give the National Dialogue Committee an opportunity to discuss the fateful issues in a democratic atmosphere, far from violence.

2. We reiterate our previous stand on the press censorship issue and the curtailment of the freedom of expression. The Phalangist rule must cancel the censorship decision before beginning the dialogue, so that the Lebanese can become acquainted with the discussions on their fate that will be held in Geneva. Any concealment or distortion of facts will not benefit anyone.

3. The need to lift the curfew that is imposed on the southern suburbs and West Beirut in order to enable the citizens to carry out their daily activities without any oppression or coercion and to provide them with the opportunity to exercise their individual rights.

The PSP reiterates the need to abide by these provisions in order to render the national conference a success and to prevent the shedding of more innocent blood.

CP Demands 'Arafat Leave Tripoli, Return to Tunis

JN230953 Damascus Doemstic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Beirut — The Lebanese Communist Party Politburo has appealed to all those who are concerned for the question of Palestine, the PLO, and Lebanon to convince Yasir 'Arafat and his companions to leave Tripoli and return to Tunis in order to avoid imminent internal and bloody conflict within the ranks of the Palestinian revolution, and to avert the destruction of Tripoli and the Palestinian camps in it.

In a message addressed to the PLO leadership and representatives of the communist and socialist parties and both Arab and world national liberation movements' factions, the Politburo said: During the bloody attacks on our party offices in Tripoli, we were surprised to know that not only certain Fatah elements and cadres were involved in these attacks, but also Fatah leaderships in the city.

The message indicates the Lebanese Communist Party's alliance with the Palestinian revolution and joint fighting in southern Lebanon and Beirut throughout 15 years of struggle against the Zionist and fascist forces. It adds: We will continue the struggle regrardless of difficulties and sacrifices for the sake of the Palestinian question.

The message notes that it is well known to all the political forces in Lebanon that the rabid, vicious groups which attacked the Communist Party offices in Tripoli are organically linked with the Fatah movement and its leader Yasir 'Arafat. These groups are financed, armed, and trained by the Fatah movement.

In its message, the Politburo said that there are Palestinian testimonies on Yasir 'Arafat's relations with these rabid, vicious groups. It wondered why the Fatah leadership in Tripoli was involved in this blatant aggression against the Lebanese Communist Party offices. It added: It has been revealed that this aggression was not coincidental, but well studied and planned in advance.

The Politburo called for a firm condemnation and punishment of the perpetrators of the Tripoli massacre and for providing the security circumstances which enable the Lebanese Communist Party and all other national, progressive parties to resume all forms of activity as deemed necessary by the situation in Tripoli and Lebanon.

The Politburo indicated that Yasir 'Arafat's arrival in Tripoli was accompanied by an escalation in the intra-Palestinian conflict, further tension in relations with Syria, and a defamation campaign against Syria, the National Salvation Front, and the fighting waged by the citizens in the Lebanese mountain area under Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt. His arrival also greatly harmed the Arab nation's common cause, it concluded.

Budapest TV Interview With CP Secretary

LD212131 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1955 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Interview with Lebanese Communist Party Secretary Nadim 'Abd as-Samad on "Panorama" program by Alajos Chrudinak; date and place not given — As-Samad speaks in Arabic with superimposed Hungarian translation]

[Excerpts] We begin with the Middle East. People are asking more and more frequently what will happen with the PLO and Yasir 'Arafat, whether the conflict between 'Arafat and Syrian President al-Asad, will be settled. According to the signs, 'Arafat in Tripoli, Lebanon. Bloody clashes have taken place over this in Tripoli between the Lebanese communists and the Muslim organizations and between 'Arafat followers supporting them. Alajos Chrudinak spoke about this with Nadim 'Abd as-Samad, secretary of the Lebanese Communist Party. .

[As-Samad] It makes us extremely sad that this tragedy happened in Tripoli at a time when clashes between the progressive forces and government troops in Beirut and the surrounding hills had not even ended. For we had concluded merely a cease-fire, not an agreement. At the beginning of the week Yasir 'Arafat tried to reassure us that he had nothing to do with the attack and that he would do everything to settle our conflict with the Islamic fighters. Two days ago, however, a reactionary Islamic organization's armed bands made an unexpected and large-scale attack against the Communist Party offices in Tripoli's dock area. The attack was supported by those regular Fatah units which are directly under Yasir 'Arafat's direction. Fortunately at the time of the attack few of our comrades were in the party offices. They were all murdered. Everyone was slaughtered.

[Chrudinak] What was the point of the attack?

[As-Samad] It is common knowledge what the Islamic groups wanted, since their slogan is anti-communism and the struggle against national endeavors. The Islamic organizations with which Yasir 'Arafat has now made an alliance in Tripoli had in fact been active in the direction of the Lebanese military intelligence, the second branch.

[Chrudinak] So does this mean that they are acting under the authority of the Lebanese Government?

[As-Samad] But not officially.

[Chrudinak] Is Amin al-Jumayyil their boss?

[As-Samad] Yes. Unofficially, the Lebanese Government, the Lebanese Army intelligence directs these Islamic organizations. And 'Arafat is brought together with these organizations by his own anti-Syrian attitude. By eliminating the left wing they want to remove the obstacle from the path of creating a state which 'Arafat would set up with these Islamic organizations.

[Chrudinak] In Tripoli?

[As-Samad] Yes, in Tripoli. We are opposed to such a state, because we believe that what happened in Beirut earlier cannot

simply be repeated in the north. Because since the Israeli invasion, political conditions have changed in Lebanon. So, Yasir 'Arafat wants to set up a state for himself in Tripoli, because if 'Arafat focused his endeavors on turning Tripoli into the bastion of national resistance in the struggle against the fascist Phalangists, Israel, and the Americans, then we and the Syrians could also cooperate with him. But we can not accept the fact that 'Arafat is now concentrating all his strength on the struggle against Syria. And since we oppose this policy, the interests of Yasir 'Arafat and the reactionary Islamic organizations have met to inflict a blow on our party, which is the strongest left-wing organization in Tripoli.

[Chrudinak] In your opinion, is there still a chance for the settlement of the conflict with Yasir 'Arafat; in concrete terms, is there still some chance for resolving the conflicts between Syria, or Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, and Yasir 'Arafat?

[As-Samad] It makes us extremely sad that the PLO's fate and future are now really in danger. This danger is brought about by the fact that everything is not being done for the substantive cure of the conflicts within Fatah. Because it was not Syria who created the inner conflicts of Fatah. It may be that Syria makes use of these conflicts, but the conflict within Fatah is very long-standing, just as the conflicts within the PLO have a long past. But in our day it is simply unacceptable that certain Palestinian leaders should chase the chimera of an American settlement in the same way as Anwar as-Sadat. For we know well where Anwar as-Sadat's policy led in the end.

[Chrudinak] 'Arafat has now been blockaded in Tripoli. He cannot break out of the sea and land blockade. He cannot leave Tripoli. Is it conceivable that Syria, or another allied force, will attack him and perhaps kill 'Arafat?

[As-Samad] I hope that 'Arafat will have enough time to save not only his own life but Yasir 'Arafat the symbol, too. And this is very important for us. Because for a long time this symbol guided the struggle of the Palestinian people. We want, and strive with all our effort, even in spite of what has happened, to save Yasir 'Arafat and PLO unity.

[Chrudinak] So there is still a chance of this happening. And is it conceivable that Hafiz al-Asad and Yasir 'Arafat will be reconciled?

[As-Samad] I doubt if this could now happen. But we must not despair. We must do everything we can. But I think it was a serious mistake for Yasir 'Arafat to go from Tunis to Tripoli. Why did he go to Tripoli in such a situation?

[Chrudinak] Why did he go there in your opinion?

[As-Samad] In my opinion he felt that he had dropped out of the political picture, that he had distanced himself from events. He went to Tripoli to draw attention to himself. That was one reason. The other one was to disturb Syria.

[Chrudinak] How did he get to Tripoli?

[As-Samad] By sea.

[Chrudinak] In other words, by boat?

[As-Samad] Yes.

[Chrudinak] Across the Israeli naval blockade?

[As-Samad] They don't check every boat. So 'Arafat was able to go there and he could leave there, too. This is not a technical but a political question. It was a political mistake that he went to Tripoli. The correct political decision would be if he now left Tripoli. Because 'Arafat, with his anti-Syrian attitude and his sense of injury arrived in Tripoli at a very bad time, exactly when we concentrated all our strength on the fighting in the Ash-Shuf Mountains and around Beirut.

Karami Offers Condolences to U.S., France

NC231332 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Press conference held by former Prime Minister Rashid Karami in Tripoli on 23 October — recorded]

[Text] [Karami] First, I want to offer condolences to President Reagan and to the American people for the victims who have fallen in the incident that has taken place around the Beirut International Airport. I also offer condolences to President Mitterrand and to the French people.

From here, we emphasize our rejection of violence and of these practices whose costly price we have paid. We consider what has happened in our country to be the result of a conspiracy that was concocted against us and that is still continuing.

International strife is taking place in our area in the Middle East. This strife daily burdens us with more innocent blood and with destruction and ruination. We also want to draw attention to all those concerned that we have a cause and we have our rights. The injustice that is befalling us cannot be returned as a right [as heard], nor, can injustice be warded off by resorting to well planned strategies, nor by the fleets nor by the Multinational Force.

After all that has happened, it transpires that the use of force does not resolve, but increases, the difficulties and problems. However, a solution can be brought about by way of an international conference to be attended by all the parties concerned and by the five Security Council permanent member-states that wield the veto right. The reason is that justice alone achieves stability, reassurance, and security. However, the result of injustice is more calamities.

Having said these things, I want to call the attention of the Americans and the French and others to determine who stands to benefit from the bombings that are taking place. The objective behind what has happened is to get rid of the U.S. stance, which we hear from some quarters has changed and that the United States has begun to turn away from them toward others.

On the other hand, we hear that there is a political-economic crisis in Israel. Furthermore, all these things require that no

opportunity be given [Israel] for exploiting the situation so it can realize its dream of setting up an empire. We hear some accusations from here and there about Syria — and Mr McFarlane said that Syria has legitimate interests in Lebanon. I have read statements attributed to some members of the Phalange Party to the effect that the difficulty through which they are passing does not induce them to despair, because, in their calculations, it is inevitable for surprises to occur and to reverse the situation.

As I have said, we do not want injustice to befall anyone, particularly us. On the contrary, we seek justice and righteousness. It is imperative that the United States, France, and every state that is able to help achieve these goals hasten in providing just solutions, because without these solutions the area will not stabilize and the world will not calm down.

[Unidentified speaker] Mr Prime Minister: The Lebanese (?people) are expecting the long awaited [National] Dialogue Conference which has been scheduled for this month, while others are spreading rumors about security incidents and are expressing fears. What is your opinion?

[Karami] We have advocated a dialogue. We have emphasized and we still emphasize our readiness for a meeting and for forwarding our ideas and demands. If there are those who fear this meeting and will not concede what they believe to be beneficial to their schemes for ruling Lebanon autocratically, and for imposing their hegemony on Lebanon, then this question should be put to them, not to us. We observe and wait, and we depend on God.

Reportage on Tension in Southern Areas

Explosion Reported

NC241042 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] At 1155 today there was a big explosion in the Al-'Aqbiyah-As-Sarafand area. It was followed by some bursts of gunfire. Immediately afterward the Israeli forces sealed off the main road in the Al-'Aqbiyah area. Movement was semiparalyzed on this road at a time when a sit-in is continuing in As-Sarafand, but the sit-in is smaller today than it was yesterday.

IDF Attacked in As-Sarafand

NC241427 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] The uprising in the south is escalating continuously. The Lebanese National Resistance men carried out today a new operation against the occupation forces in As-Sarafand despite the enemy's repressive measures.

At noon today, the National Resistance men attacked an enemy patrol on the southern approach to As-Sarafand with rockets, handgrenades, and machine guns. A vehicle belonging to the enemy was destroyed and some members of the patrol were killed and others wounded. Subsequently, the occupation forces cut the As-Sarafand-Tyre Highway and mounted a wide-scale campaign of arrests among the sons of As-Sarafand, which is still under curfew for the 3d day running. The inhabitants are continuing their strike and sit-in inside the mosque.

Patrol Near Tyre Attacked

NC250656 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] The Lebanese National Resistance men yesterday carried out two daring military operations against the occupation forces. The first was carried out near the township of Al-'Aqbiyah in the district of Tyre, when the resistance men attacked an Israeli patrol with machineguns and rockets, killing or wounding a number of enemy personnel. The second operation was carried out near the (Aman) area by detonating an explosive device under an Israeli military jeep, wounding its four occupants.

Al-Wazzan Comments on Events

NC241923 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Commenting on the current events in the south, particularly the repressive measures adopted by the Israeli forces in As-Sarafand, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan said: The events we tackled yesterday have not prevented us from following up the questions of the south, what is taking place in As-Sarafand and in other southern villages, and the measures which must be adopted — measures that coincide with the national spirit enjoyed by the citizens. The contacts we held in this regard will undoubtedly put an end to all that is taking place and will restore normalcy.

General Strike 25 Oct

NC250736 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] A general all-embracing strike began in southern Lebanon today. The strike has been called by the Amal Movement in protest against Israeli practices and in solidarity with the uprising of the southern villages. Amal leader lawyer Nabih Birri has called on the sons of the south and western Al-Biqa' to comply with this call and to replace the Israeli era with the southern era.

Some Areas Not Striking

NC250941 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Our correspondent in the south reports that the area extending from Az-Zahrani to An-Nabatiyah did not participate in the strike called for by the Amal Movement. In An-Nabatiyah shops were open and the situation was normal.

An-Nabatiyah on Strike

NC251038 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] As for the all-embracing strike in the South which was called for by the Amal Movement, our correspondent reported that An-Nabatiyah has responded to the call. He added that shops and commercial establishments are closed and that groups of citizens burned tires in the side streets.

Syrians Surround, Blockade 'Irsal 24 October

NC241326 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that for the past 48 hours, the Syrian forces have been surrounding 'Irsal in the Al-Hirmil ridges and imposing a food blockade on it after a number of Syrian officers took refuge there. The officers were hunted by the authorities for helping the Palestinians and for smuggling weapons and goods between Syria and Lebanon.

Arrests Reported After Attempt on Syria's Al-Asad

NC221350 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] According to information received by the Voice of Lebanon, the Syrian authorities recently arrested 12 officers holding the rank of lieutenant colonel, major, or captain, after having interrogated them about the assassination attempt to which Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad was subjected during the paratroopers graduation ceremony and about the killing of eight persons, including two officers.

Meanwhile, since the start of this week, Aleppo has been experiencing a campaign of arrests carried out by the special forces against members of the Muslim Brotherhood. Reports emphasize that about 150 persons have been arrested in Aleppo and that a number of explosions occurred in various parts of the city last Tuesday. This prompted the Syrian authorities to bring in military forces supported with tanks, armored cars, and helicopters. These forces raided several houses in Aleppo, especially the hideouts of the Muslim Brotherhood.

According to another report, the Sunnis in Aleppo are being subjected to strong pressure with a view to making them leave the city and replacing them by 'Alawites.

'Responsible Source' Reacts to U.S. 'Accusation'

JN241609 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1545 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus, 24 Oct (SANA) — A responsible source stated the following here today:

Larry Speakes, the White House press spokesman, has announced that the United States is studying the possibility that the terrorists launched their attack with the support or instigation of Syria.

This statement, which levels accusations on the basis of assumption and likelihood, indicates a lack of the spirit of responsibility. It also indicates that some U.S. officials are trying to justify to the U.S. people their lack of facts by searching for a scapegoat [mashijab] which they can hold responsible for this lack and for their erroneous policies as well as the resulting events and pains.

The insinuations made by some U.S. officials every now and then against Syria are futile. We do not hesitate to admit what we do and we do not care if others accuse us of what we did not do, particularly if the accusation comes within the framework of a continuous policy hostile to Syria and the Arabs in general.

ATH-THAWRAH on White House Statements

JN250842 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0745 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus, 25 Oct (SANA) — In its editorial today, *Ath-Thawrah* says that the statement made by the White House spokesman yesterday is a continuation of the rancorous campaign against Syria and of the U.S. stand which is hostile to Syria and the Arab nation. It is also an overt attempt by the Washington Government to justify its impotence in explaining the facts as they are to the U.S. people, and to have others shoulder the responsibility for the consequences and results of its erroneous policies.

The paper adds: By increasing its involvement in the policy of aggression in disregard for the increasing opposition of the U.S. public opinion to this trend of aggression, the U.S. Administration will be committing a grave mistake if it imagines that through its campaign of deception it can conceal facts and justify its wrong practices in the Middle East and the pains and consequences which these policies may bring about.

The paper concludes: Syria, which is firmly confronting the U.S.-Israeli policy of hegemony, control, aggression, and expansion,is defending itself, its people, and the Arab nation. Syria is very well aware that its principled stand enjoys the support of the Arab nation and the forces of freedom and progress in the world.

Reagan's Remarks on Remaining in Lebanon Reported

JN242206 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Washington — U.S. President Reagan has reiterated the U.S. Administration's intentions to throw more of its military forces into Lebanon. In a speech he made today, President Reagan said that the United States will strengthen its forces' capabilities in Lebanon so they can defend themselves. He further said that the United States is discussing with its allies the possibility of further supporting the Multinational Force in Lebanon. The U.S. President disclosed Washington's objectives in Lebanon and the Arab region when he said that the United States has vital interests in Lebanon and that these forces must stay there until the situation comes under control, as he put it. He also said that Lebanon is a primary area for preserving security in other areas in the Middle East, the eastern part of the Mediterranean, and the Arabian Peninsula. President Reagan threatened that he would not allow those whom he described as international criminals to weaken peace, as he put it.

U.S. President Ronald Reagan called for holding a meeting of the foreign ministers of the states participating in the Multinational Force to discuss the situation following the explosions in the U.S. and French forces' headquarters in Beirut. Reports said that Reagan asked his Secretary of State George Shultz to contact the foreign ministers of the states participating in the Multinational Force to fix the meeting's date and venue.

Damascus Television on U.S. NSC Meeting

JN242008 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] U.S. President Reagan held a National Security Council meeting in Washington today in which Vice President George Bush, Secretary of State George Shultz, Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff committee, and Marine Corps Commandant Paul Kelley took part. Informed White House sources said that the President is awaiting more information from the CIA; and that the U.S. National Security Council will adopt recommendations by the Pentagon to secure more protection for the Marines in Beirut. These sources say that these recommendations include transferring the Marine headquarters to the ships off the Beirut shore.

The Italian prime minister announced that his country would keep its forces within the Multinational Forces in Lebanon. The BBC, however, says that the British Labor Party members will tonight demand the pullout of the British soldiers from Lebanon.

Israel, U.S. Said Seeking Pretext for Mideast War

JN241535 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1245 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Report by Jibarah al-Barghuthi within "On the Events" program]

[Text] Henry Kissinger, one of the Reagan administration's political partners, has demanded a change in the balance of power in Lebanon. He considered the incident to which the U.S. Marines were exposed to be a pretext for a U.S. action to this effect. Members of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives called for a U.S. military operation to occupy the positions and hills surrounding the Lebanese capital. These serious calls have coincided with a large-scale Zionist campaign against the Lebanese nationalist forces and Syria.

The enemy newspapers came out with provocative headlines, making use of the bloodbaths which are multiplying and spreading in Beirut and the Lebanese areas that are subjected to the Phalangist violence and the Zionist occupation forces' crimes in southern Lebanon.

Despite the crimes which the Zionists have been committing against the Lebanese people for more than a year, the Phalangist party, which has never cared a damn for independent and united Lebanese homeland and which has sacrificed Lebanon and its sons so as to form an alliance with the Zionists, is currently interested in expanding crimes against Lebanon by finding pretexts for direct Western military interference in Lebanon's affairs. The calls by Kissinger and the Congress to mount a large-scale military operation against nationalist Lebanon is the first reaction which reveals the intention of the Phalangists and Israel, which have killed dozens of thousands of people and which are trying to cover up for their crimes with a similar campaign [words indistinct].

There are many indications that Israel is planning a large-scale war in the region and that the United States is ready and enthusiastic for such a war. It is not strange for the CIA agents to seek pretexts and justifications to enflame the Middle East situation.

The direct U.S. intervention occurred following Israel's crimes in Beirut; and following the Sabra and Shatila massacres, the U.S. Marines rushed to Beirut. When the Philippine opposition leader was killed the United States reinforced its military positions in the Far East. The same thing applies in the Caribbean where the Salvadoran and Nicaraguan events show that the Untied States is planning for a crime which will be a pretext for its antipeople policy.

Damascus Assails U.S. Involvement in Lebanon

JN241530 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] If the U.S. officials would recall the details of their involvment and defeat in Vietnam and Southeast Asia, they would find that the beginning of their scandalous involvement and defeat was their sending a number of military men under the guise of supervisors and under the pretext of helping a free government against sabotage acts and destructive elements. This interference grew into sending various kinds of U.S. forces and weapons to Vietnam to wage a criminal war of aggression against the Vietnamese people — a war which ended as all of the wars between peoples and imperialism have always ended; namely, in people's interests in this age of people's triumph and the shrinking of world imperialist power and influence.

Despite the fact that the United States was one of the two most powerful states in the world, and despite the fact that it put its full weight in Vietnam, the picture of the U.S. ambassador in Saigon who fled barefoot in a helicopter that picked him up from the roof of the U.S. Embassy has remained to symbolize the U.S. historic military defeat in Southeast Asia. The Vietnam war has revealed that the Americans did not go there to defend a free government but to protect an antipeople government which was hated by the Vietnamese people. It was revealed that those whom the United States fought and killed in Vietnam were not saboteurs and destructive elements but freedom heroes and pioneers of the Vietnamese people and those who defended their people's interests, dignity, and honor. Those whom the United States wanted to impose on the Vietnamese people were destined to remain buried in the ground or, like the infamous General Cao Ky, are currently managing bars in the United States.

Had the U.S. rulers learned a lesson from the Vietnamese events, they would not have been involved in Lebanon or tried to transform it into a base for the United States and NATO against those Arab states which reject capitulation to Israel and U.S. hegemony. Had they learned the Vietnamese lesson, the U.S. rulers would not have involved themselves militarily against the Lebanese nationalist forces in Israel's interest and to promote Israeli occupation of Lebanon and the Israeli-Lebanese agreement. They would not have confronted those Lebanese forces which demand Israel's full, unconditional withdrrawal from Lebanon and which work for protecting Lebanon's unity, independence, and sovereignty and its right to draw up its own policies.

The lessons of Vietnam and other places in the world including the Middle East show that he who puts his hands in the fire must be burned, and he who pours oil on fire must reap the fruits of his action. He who opposes the people's will must sooner or later be defeated. He who wants to control history's movement and force history's wheel backward must be come exhausted because the momentum of change is irresistible.

The United States is directly responsible for any deterioration which has occurred in the region and which may occur in the future. This is because it gave Israel the green light to invade Lebanon, supported this invasion, defended the Israeli occupation, and worked to exploit the Israeli invasion of Lebanon to serve its aims of controlling the region and dominating its destiny. The United States is directly responsible for the Lebanese-Israeli aggreement which divided up the Lebanese people, threatened the Lebanese unity, independence, and sovereignty, and harmed coexistence among the Lebanese groups.

He who wants a just, honorable, and feasible settlement in Lebanon must follow one path; namely, drive out the Israeli aggressors from Lebanon unconditionally, stop the U.S. and NATO military intervention in Lebanon, and grant the Lebanese people the opportunity of solving their problems by themslves on the bases of their unity, independence, sovereignty, and Arab identity. Any escalation of the U.S. and NATO military involvment in Lebanon and the region under any pretext and in all forms will be detrimental to the efforts of peace, settlement, and dialogue and will create a serious situation whose consequences cannot be predicted if it explodes, regardless of the desires of the parties concerned in the crisis. This is because if issues proceed in the wrong direction as some sides want them to proceed, it would be difficult to control these issues. In all these cases, the responsibility will be that of those who want to involve themselves in the region's internal affairs and to impose their will and hegemony on it.

To preserve the unity of the Lebanese people and territory and to protect their independence, sovereignty, and Arab affiliation is in the interest of Syria and the Arabs. The realization of this can be only through the Lebanese national reconciliation. Those who want to force the United States to increase its military and political involvment in Lebanon are working against the interests of Lebanon, against the region's peace and security, and in favor of the perpetuation of Israel's occupation of Lebanon.

TISHRIN on Need for Serious Arab Action

JN250948 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0755 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus, 25 Oct (SANA) — *Tishrin* says that the U.S. President's recent statements should be an invitation to all the Arabs to devote their forthcoming summit to presistent, serious, and joint action, based on a deep-rooted and real solidarity that will enable them to assess the magnitude, the evilness and far-reaching dimensions of the danger which is threatening the nation, the cause, and its future, and to confront this danger so that it might be averted.

The paper adds that without a strong Syria, our Arab nation will not have the means for confrontation. Our nation also will not have a weapon in its hands with which to wage the war and carry out a dialogue from position of preparedness, readiness, fitness, confidence, and capability.

The paper adds: This is, perhaps, the essence of the discussions to be held at the forthcoming Arab summit which must be distinctive in view of the current circumstances, the escalation of the onslaught, and the magnitude of the dangers.

Tishrin concludes by saying that deriving its strength from its firm and principled stand which represents the Arab masses' will, Syria will continue to exert efforts to become stronger and more capable of performing its great role in defending the cause, the Arabs' rights and their future, a role which so far has scored many victories and which will score more victories thanks to those who have faith in their rights and those who struggle for sacred causes.

Further Damascus Reports on Beirut Explosions

'Retaliatory Action' Decision Reported

JN241616 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] The Pentagon this morning announced that 161 U.S. Marines were killed yesterday in the explosion which was carried out against the U.S. contingent in Beirut. AFP has said that the U.S. Armed Forces have not lost so many U.S. military men in 1 day since the Vietnam war. The latest statistics from Beirut say that the victims of the terrible explosion which occurred in the headquarters of the French contingent yesterday morning amount to 40 French soldiers in addition to 43 others still missing under the derbis. Reports also said that the French Defense Ministry has announced that the search among the debris is still going on.

Informed White House sources today said that President Reagan and the National Security Council have decided to take retaliatory action after the occurrence of the two terrible explosions in the headquarters of the U.S. and French commands in Beirut. These sources also added that the National Security Council will adopt recommendations by the Pentagon in order to ensure more protection for the U.S. Marines. These recommendations include moving the U.S. Marines' centers to one of the U.S. warships off the Lebanese coast. President Reagan today ordered that flags be flown at half mast over all military offices, naval centers, and U.S. embassies as a sign of mourning of the victims of the two explosions. AP also said that President Reagan had ordered that flags be flown at half mast over the U.S. naval bases.

On the other hand, President Mitterrand paid a surprise visit to Beirut this morning on board a special warplane, and immediately left for the headquarters of the French contingent in the As-Sanawbar Palace. A French presidential office spokesman said that President Mitterrand had come to Beirut to express his solidarity with the French soldiers and to inspect the French forces in the Multinational Force. Beirut radio also said that Amin al-Jumayyil met with the French president in the headquarters of the French forces. No details of the meeting were given. The French president also declined to make any statement. President Mitterrand is accompanied by his chief of staff and his foreign affairs adviser. He is due to leave Beirut this afternoon for Paris.

In Washington, former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger has stressed the need to reinforce the U.S. Marines in Lebanon following the terrible explosion that took place yesterday. In a television interview, he said that these forces should not be withdrawn, but should be reinforced in close coordination with the other parties and countries that are concerned about preserving peace in Lebanon. In a report from the U.S. capital, AFP said that the U.S. Marines' families have been living in a state of anxiety and fear since the announcement of the explosion that took place in the U.S. Marines' headquarters and the injury of a great number of the Marines. It also said that the Marines' families are watching television programs to hear any new news since the Pentagon has not yet issued a list of the killed and wounded.

The enemy's sources in Washington also expressed concern over reports about a possible movement of the Marines' headquarters from Beirut to one of the U.S. warships off the Lebanese coast. These sources said that they hoped such a move would not be the beginning of a U.S. withdrawal from Lebanon. On the other hand, the chairman of the Knesset security and foreign affairs committee has called on the United States to keep its forces in Beirut and said that if the U.S. Marines withdraw from Lebanon, the West Will lose a strategic piece of land in the region. In London, the British opposition Labor Party is expected to call on the British Government to withdraw the British soldiers in the multinational force in Lebanon. A spokesman for the party's defense affairs said that the two explosions, which were carried out against the U.S. and French contingents in Beirut, have aroused doubts not only over the safety of the British forces, but also over the purpose of keeping them there.

Television Reports Increasing Toll

JN241952 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Latest official reports about the number of U.S. and French soldiers killed by the two horrible explosions in Beirut say that 183 U.S. soldiers were killed and 75 others injured; wile 23 French soldiers were killed and 15 others injured. There are 35 soldiers missing. More in the following report:

Reports from Beirut say that 75 injured U.S. soldiers were transferred to the hospitals of the FRG, Italy, and Cyprus and that 15 French soldiers were also injured. There are 35 French soldiers missing according to a statement by the French Government broadcast by Paris radio today.

Beirut radio says that searches in the rubble of the two buildings are continuing. Reports continue to be conflicting on the results of the two explosions. VOA says that the death toll is rising.

L'HUMANITE Warning Cited

JN241946 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Lebanon — The Phalangist radio [Voice of Lebanon] has said that as of this evening the number of U.S. and French soldiers killed by yesterday's horrible explosions has reached 165 and 39 respectively. Reports say that the number of French soldiers killed was 40. AFP says 14 U.S. Marines were injured. It said that this is the greatest number of U.S. casualties in a single day since the Vietnam war.

Zionist circles in Washington expressed their concern about the reports on the probable transfer of the U.S. Marines' headquarters to one of the U.S. ships. The Zionist Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee Chairman Ben Elisar said that the West will lose a strategic spot in the region if the Marines withdraw from Lebanon.

In Paris the French newspaper *L'Humanite* warned that President Reagan's statement about Washington's determination to continue its attempts to control Lebanon raises fears that the Marines will continue their mission in a manner that is contrary to the original tasks of the Multinational Forces. The paper said that France must not be dragged into this gamble.

Casualties in Explosions Cited

JN250736 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Washington — The latest casualty figures announced by the U.S. Department of Defense last night stated that 191 U.S. Marines were killed in the explosion which took place in the General Command Headquarters in Beirut, and that 75 wounded have been rushed to hospitals in West Germany, Italy, and Cyprus. The final casualty figures have not yet been determined.

On its part, the French Defense Ministry stated that 23 French soldiers were killed and 15 others wounded. The number of those missing has risen to 43. The two ministries have not made public a list of the names and ranks of those killed and wounded.

AL-BA'TH on Lebanese Reconciliation Conference

JN250928 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Press review]

[Text] In a commentary today regarding the promised Lebanese accord, the newspaper *Al-Ba'th* says: Despite all the obstacles and mines which have hampered the Lebanese national accord, signs indicate that the convocation of the dialogue conference will take place this time on its announced date of 31 October in Geneva.

Al-Ba'th adds: Even if all invited parties to the conference, including the Lebanese National Salvation Front [NSF] and the Amal Movement, have announced their agreement on the date and venue of this conference, experience necessitates precautions against new Phalangist surprises which would create new obstacles that would call for the postponement of the conference once again and create confusion that would further complicate the Lebanese crisis and push it toward the dark tunnel. The history of the Phalangists and their agents in Lebanon is not reassuring concerning any national meeting such as the dialogue conference which is scheduled to be held in a weeks time, given that it is the aspiration of the conference to draw a new political map for fraternal Lebanon and an image for its future on the basis of its Arab affiliation and role in the Arab group in its confrontation of the Zionist dangers. This is in addition to the task of this conference which is to establish a new image for the political and social structure in Lebanon away from the hegemony of the sect, the group, or the family.

The Lebanese Nationalist Movement, represented by the NSF and the Amal Movement, have proved their worthiness to represent the Lebanese people under these extraordinary circumstances which Lebanon is experiencing. They have also proved their ability to defend the aspirations of the Lebanese people by all possible means, including the armed action so as to create new equations on which any Lebanese government must be based to make its political decision regarding the fateful issues which would affect Lebanon's security and sovereignty. The most important equations are those pertaining to the agreements and treaties which the Lebanese Government would sign with any foreign side, such as the recent agreement between the Zionist enemy and Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's government.

Al-Ba'th adds: All sides of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement have announced that the cancellation of this agreement would put the Lebanese dialogue on the right course toward accord. This agreement which relinquished Lebanon's sovereignty and achieved the Zionist security at the expense of the Lebanese and Arab security, was the major cause of most of the difficulties and catastrophes to which Lebanon was exposed during the past months. Those who defend this agreement are not qualified to save Lebanon and build its future in accordance with the masses' interests.

Al-Ba'th concludes: Syria, which played the most important role in achieving a cease-fire in Lebanon and placed all forces on the road to the dialogue, can only wish success for the promised reconciliation conference. From its pioneering pan-Arab position, Syria hopes that the interests of Arab Lebanon will be the greatest motive of all opinions, and the interests of the Arab nation will be the primary objective of all the forces in fraternal Lebanon. Moreover, Syria hopes that the Lebanese, at the negotiating table, will choose the proper basis on which to build the ideal future under the canopy of sovereignty and liberation.

'Arafat's Muslim Brotherhood Affiliation Noted

JN222002 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1720 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Palestine broadcast: "Historical Events"]

[Text] Brothers on the path of revolution and liberation: Is it a mere coincidence that Yasir 'Arafat has become an ally of a rightist organization such as the Islamic Unification Movement in Tripoli, and that this alliance has turned into a collusion to strike at the Lebanese nationalist movement with all brutality and malice?

Some people have explained 'Arafat's collusion with the Islamic Unification Movement in Tripoli as if it is the result of the current stage, the dilemma that 'Arafat is facing, and the uprising of the Palestinian revolution's bases and cadres against the deviant and defeatist course with which he diverted the revolution's political line and the PLO national charter.

Those who confine their view to this side ignore historical events that have surrounded Yasir 'Arafat since he began his political activities in the early 1950's. Yasir 'Arafat began his political life as a member in the Muslim Brotherhood Movement in Egypt. When a confrontation took place in Egypt between 'Abd an-Nasir and the Muslim Brotherhood Movement, Yasir 'Arafat and other rightist leaders in the Fatah movement such as Khalil al-Wazir and Salah Khalaf were among the Muslim Brotherhood members who were subjected to investigation, house arrest, and other security measures that 'Abd an-Nasir adopted against the Muslim Brotherhood Movement in Egypt and Gaza at that time.

Contrary to the position of the majority of those who belonged to the Muslim Brotherhood Movement in Egypt and Gaza in the early 1950's and who left the movement after its conspiratorial role against the 23 July Revolution in Egypt and 'Abd an-Nasir's national role was exposed, Yasir 'Arafat, Khalil al-Wazir, and Salah Khalaf joined the Muslim Brotherhood Movement's secret organization.

On the groundwork of this secret organization: The idea of forming a fedayeen organization appeared in 1958 in order to serve the Muslim Brotherhood's policy in the region. The idea was discussed at a conference of the Muslim Brotherhood Movement. This is the story the rightist leaders in Fatah used to tell in order to justify their calls for leaving the political parties:

When discussing the idea of forming the organization at the Muslim Brotherhood Movement conference in 1958, differences appeared on whether the organization would be confined to the Muslim Brotherhood Movement or would polarize various factions if those polarized factions abandoned their political leanings. As the majority at the conference supported the idea that the organization be confined to the Muslim Brotherhood members, those supporting the idea of forming a larger movement left the Muslim Brotherhood Movement and formed the fedayeen organization — hence their organizational relationship with the Muslim Brotherhood Movement.

This explanation of the framework within which they began their action in the Palestinian arena proves rather than disproves their practical connection with the Muslim Brotherhood Movement. The following basic facts also confirm this link:

1. The secret that not even some members of the Fatah Central Committee know about the formation and role of the higher central committee that was mentioned in the statutes declaring the formation of the movement and that was signed by the Central Committee. However, this secret was not mentioned within the basic statutes.

2. The monopolization of the authority and funds by the Central Committee members who were affiliated with the Muslim Brotherhood Movement.

3. The cadres who were affiliated to the Muslim Brotherhood Movement assume sensitive posts, especially posts that will guarantee a suitable majority in the Revolutionary Council.

These facts not only explain the current alliance between 'Arafat and his group and the Islamic Unification Movement, and his financial and material support for and his collusion with it, but these facts also explain 'Arafat's rejection of the suggestion included in the memorandum of the PLO Central Council's mediation committee. The suggestion calls for forming a temporary leadership committee to which both Fatah wings will agree. This temporary leadership committee will assume all leadership authority until the Fatah General Congress is convened and a new central committee is elected.

The moment the rightist wing at the Central Committee loses its ability to control the formation of the general congress, it will lose control forever. This is because the majority of the Fatah cadres and bases are patriotic Palestinian citizens who join the Palestinian masses in condemning the Muslim Brotherhood Movement's behavior, beginning with their conspiratorial role against 'Abd an-Nasir and the role they assumed in supporting the Jordanian regime against the nationalist forces in 1957 and ending with the destructive role they have assumed against the steadfastness of Syria. When these cadres and bases are able to select their leadership in a democratic manner, they will not hand power over to rightist elements who established their leading role by hegemony and domination.

Further Reaction to Beirut Bombing Reported

UN Ambassador Accuses Syria

TA250626 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Israel's UN ambassador says it is inconceivable that the attacks in Beirut were perpetrated without the Syrians' knowledge or at least acquiescence. Ambassador Blum mentioned that Syria has tried to overthrow the Amin al-Jumayyil government right from the start.

Peres Statement

TA241143 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Speaking in Jerusalem this morning, Labor Party leader Shim'on Peres paid tribute to the American and French victims of the terror outrage and said he hoped the powers would not leave Lebanon now.

[Begin Peres recording] Whether we agree or disagree with the policy, all of us must admit, with respect and sorrow, the service, the life and death, of the young American and Frenchmen serving, in a way, all of us. Whether we agree or disagree with their policies in Lebanon, let us hope that they will not surrender or give up in the face of terrorist action. This would be a real setback and a real retreat from the service and purposes for which those boys sacrificed their lives. [end recording]

Major Haddad Comments

TA241048 Tel Aviv Yedi'ot Aharonot in Hebrew 24 Oct 83 p 2

[Report by Smadar Peri]

[Text] "I knew the Americans would suffer a catastrophe in Lebanon. I knew, and I warned. The Americans are aiming at establishing a NATO base in Lebanon, and this is why they encouraged the entry of foreign forces in the country. They made the mistake of thinking the Russians are stupid." This is what Major Sa'd Haddad, who was following the reports of the catastrophe in Beirut, said yesterday.

"The Russians," Haddad explained, "do not have to go to war to get the Americans out of Lebanon. They know the Americans' weaknesses. They have agents in Lebanon capable of guerrilla warfare and capable of attacking the U.S. soldiers in order to make them leave. This is exactly what happened yesterday."

David Levi Blames Syria

TA241248 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1242 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister David Levi has said Israel knows that it was the Syrians who attacked the Marines in Beirut yesterday. Such an attack could not have been carried out by a small, anonymous organization without the aid of a large country, the deputy prime minister said to our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz. He also said that only after the Cabinet had heard from military elements about what was happening in southern Lebanon would it decide whether to approve or reject the proposal to close the bridges on the Al-Awwali River.

Defense Minister Arens on Al-Awwali, Marines

TA241251 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1243 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens has said that if Israel finds a better deployment line in Lebanon, south of the Al-Awwali River, it will deploy there. The Al-Awwali line is not sacred, Arens pointed out, but it was found to be optimal. Referring to yesterday's attacks in Beirut, the defense minister said the U.S. public, the administration and Congress knew very well why the Marines were stationed in Beirut. It was not us who called them, he emphasized; the Americans entered Lebanon after the massacre in Sabra and Shatila in accordance with a Lebanese demand [tevi'a]. This was with the aim of proving that the United States did not identify with Israel's presence in that country. Moshe Arens was speaking to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

More on Arens Remarks

TA241500 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Moshe Arens has said that there is nothing preventing Israel from having a dialogue with Syria on the Lebanese issue, but the Syrians seem to believe that it would not be worth their while to establish a dialogue with anybody at the moment. Arens was thus reacting to the demand raised by Mordekhay Gur and Yosi Sarid of the Alignment at a meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee to enter into a dialogue with the Syrians. Sarid said that after all the objectives of the war were shattered the government was left, as it were, with one objective: the destruction of the terrorist state in Lebanon. Nevertheless, Lebanon remains a terrorist state whose capital is Beirut, and there is no difference between Palestinian, Shi'ite, Syrian, or Druze terror; ultimately, Israel is its main target.

Yitzhaq Rabin said that terror in the Middle East had never scored an achievement such as the attack in Beirut yesterday. Referring to this statement, the defense minister said that, occassionally, the world — and Israel, too — spoke about unqualified [pasul] terror although it was emphasized that its objectives were, as it were, understandable. Now, more than ever before, it is clear that this is murderous terror for the sake of murderous objectives.

U.S. Rejection of Aid for Marines Criticized

TA251044 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 25 Oct 83 p 1

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar, Menahem Horowitz and ITIM]

[Excerpt] The United States has rejected all of Israel's offers to aid the wounded Marines and to rescue the bodies in the ruins of

Marines headquarters in Beirut. The only equipment Israel has been asked to give to the rescue teams has been polyethylene bags to transfer the bodies to the United States. The Marines supply unit was not ready for such a large number of killed, and a request for aid in this field was passed on to the IDF.

Political elements in Jerusalem recalled yesterday that at one time the United States rejected signing a memorandum of strategic understanding which, had it been valid now, would have permitted the United States to be helped by the clauses involving cooperation in the medical field so that the wounded could have been hospitalized in Israeli hospitals. The same elements noted that the United States' refusal to receive Israeli aid caused a delay in treating the wounded, and at least one of them died on his way to Germany.

Today the Reagan administration explained that the United States had turned down an Israeli offer to hospitalize the wounded Marines in Israel because the U.S. Army works in accordance with permanent procedures for the evacuation of wounded.

Yesterday, satisfaction was expressed in Jerusalem with President Reagan's remarks about his determination to leave the Marine force in Beirut until an arrangement [hesder] is reached in Lebanon. At the same time, observers assessed that in view of the pressures being applied at home, Reagan will take advantage of the first signs of success during the reconciliation conference to bring the Marines home.

The lessons about medical treatment that were learned in the Haifa Rambam Hospital after the catastrophe of the collapse of the IDF headquarters in Tyre regarding the treatment of wounded suffering from a suffocation syndrome were brought to the knowledge of those treating the wounded of the catastrophic explosion in Beirut.

The lessons applicable to the treatment of those suffering from suffocation syndrome clearly indicate that there is a critical time involved in rushing the wounded to the hospital the very minute they are pulled out of the ruins. Senior medical circles in Haifa who treated the wounded from the Tyre catastrophe have said that the less time taken transferring these wounded to medical treatment, the greater chance they have, and this time, in their opinion, political considerations took precedence over medical considerations.

The day before yesterday, 23 October, the Rambam Hospital was preparing in the morning for the possibility of taking in wounded from the double catastrophe in Beirut, and a drill was held.

Increase in Military Cooperation With U.S. Seen

TA250820 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Report by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel]

[Text] For a number of weeks now, Israel has aimed at renewing the agreements on military cooperation with the United States, agreements such as those included in the memorandum of understanding on strategic affairs. This memorandum was canceled following the extension of Israeli law to the Golan Heights.

As fate would have it this week, events in Beirut proved how important cooperation can be for both sides. One of the clauses of the memorandum worked out 2 years ago deals with the storage in Israel of medical equipment owned by the U.S. Army. This equipment was missing this week when the Americans wanted to fly the casualties from Beirut to the U.S. Army hospitals in Europe, a flight lasting a number of hours.

Israel first wanted to tie the renewal of these agreements to the U.S. intention to set up a Jordanian commando force for intervention in possible crises in the Persian Gulf. Last week, Israeli Ambassador to Washington Me'ir Rosenne proposed to start an Israeli-U.S. strategic dialogue. At the time, the Americans thought Israel was asking for something in return for the establishment of the Jordanian force and had reservations about the idea. Now, with the attack in Beirut in the background, the chances for resuming the strategic dialogue seem better.

It is stressed in Jerusalem that even before the massacre in Beirut, a tendency had emerged in Washington toward increasing cooperation with Israel in the wake of deliberations in the U.S. capital after Robert McFarlane became the new national security adviser. Political circles note that in the talks he held here in his previous position as the special envoy to the Middle East, McFarlane used to express a very firm view against the Syrians and their intentions in Lebanon.

Next week, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Lawrence Eagleburger will arrive for talks in Jerusalem. Judging by the nature of such talks in general, they will deal primarily with policy, or declarations of intent, but it is hoped in Jerusalem that this time the visit will have a more practical aspect. All signs indicate that this is Washington's intention as well.

DAVAR Points Finger at Syria, USSR for Beirut

TA241149 Tel Aviv Davar in Hebrew 24 Oct 83 p 1

[Commentary by Dan Avidan: "Leftists' Implementation, Syrian Directive, and Soviet Support"]

[Text] The massive blow struck at the U.S. Marines headquarters and the French forces command headquarters in Beirut is undoubtedly a Syrian campaign supported by the Soviets aimed at bringing about the evacuation of the U.S. force from Lebanon in particular, and that of the Multinational Force in general.

As in similar cases in the past, the blow itself was carried out not directly by the Syrians, but by a terrorist organization or an extremist leftist Lebanese organization acting on the directives of the Syrian regime. There is no doubt that the blow fits in with the interests of the Syrians and the Soviets, which, in this case, are absolutely identical: to cause the maximum losses to the U.S. forces and the Multinational Force in Lebanon in order to create increasing internal pressures, both on President Reagan and, through public opinion, on the French administration, to evacuate both the U.S. force and the Multinational Force from Lebanon.

The Soviets are interested in the evacuation of the U.S. forces and the Multinational Force from Lebanon as part of their policy of fouling U.S. policy in the Middle East in general, particularly in Lebanon. This is the Soviet Union's goal, as part of the global interpower confrontation.

The Syrians, for their part, are aiming at the evacuation of the U.S. and Multinational Forces from Lebanon in order to give back to Syria a decisive position of influence in Lebanon and the status of the only element to dictate the moves and arrangements in that country. The Reagan administration is the main prop for President al-Jumayyil's regime, which Syria is working to overthrow. The U.S. Administration is working continuously to reinforce the Al-Jumayyil regime and, for this purpose, it is rehabilitating the Lebanese Army. The American and French involvement in the fighting in Suq al-Gharb robbed the Syrian regime of the chance to defeat the Lebanese Army and deploy the leftist forces in Beirut, which would have led to the collapse of President al-Jumayyil's regime.

For the moment, it is not clear how President Reagan will react to yesterday's blow at the Marines headquarters in Beirut. His decision may actually be to leave the Marines in Lebanon and even increase U.S. involvement in that country. In any event, there is no doubt that the Syrians and Soviets assumed that the results of yesterday's blow would, in the end, lead to a stop to the military involvement and, after that, also to a stop to U.S. political involvement in Lebanon. Thus, the Syrians hoped, the main obstacle to realizing their policy in Lebanon would be removed.

MA'ARIV Sees U.S. Remaining in Lebanon

TA241205 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 24 Oct 83 p 5

[Commentary by Moshe Zaq: "They Will Not Flee"]

[Text] They will not flee. They will not abandon Beirut. They cannot give up. They cannot lose prestige and admit failure. If they do, they will also have to retreat from Central America. They will also have to give up the missile deployment in Europe, without the Soviet Union cutting down on the number of its missiles.

Only a few days ago, President Reagan declared that if the Syrians thought they could wear him or the United States out, they could expect to be disappointed. The Syrians replied with scorn and provocation. They assumed that when the U.S. Marines were attacked in Beirut, a protest movement would emerge in the United States which would force the administration to get out at once, to retreat. The Iranians are also interested now, after the warning President Reagan gave them, in proving that the United States does not have the power to carry out its threats.

Even the Soviet Union, which has been encouraged by the wave of protest against the deployment of U.S. missiles, is interested in proving to the peoples of Europe that U.S. policy can be changed by pressure, and that its position is not strong nor are its decisions firm.

If President Reagan were to fold up the U.S. flag in Beirut, it would be a Soviet victory not only in the Middle East, but also in Europe. The peoples of Europe would reconsider whether the security ties with the United States could stand up to the storms likely to occur.

The United States undoubtedly knew all its rivals' thought processes when President Reagan declared he would disappoint all those expecting a weakening. The United States' rivals were undoubtedly interested in putting the Americans' ability to stand firm to the test. These could also be the reasons for the evil deed in the region of Beirut airport, but these reasons make it incumbent upon the United States not to act as its opponents would wish, and not to retreat.

The U.S. ship *New Jersey* anchored in the Beirut port carries very powerful firepower on its decks. The same applies to the other ships of the 6th Fleet. However, the war in Lebanon is not being conducted between navies and armies. The ongoing fighting in Lebanon is a struggle between boobytrapped cars. The U.S. Embassy in Beirut was not attacked by Syrian soldiers or Palestinian terrorists, but by a boobytrapped car smuggled into it by agents. Bashir Al-Jumayyil did not fall in battle, but through a mine operated by an agent who infiltrated the Phalange headquarters.

One cannot fight agents and boobytrapped cars with gunboats, or even with missile boats. There was a time when agents from the other side knew that every action they took would bring retaliation, would exact its price. Therefore, there have also been times when attacks of this type stopped. However, it is impossible to give the U.S. public such explanations because of the fear of a "second Vietnam" in Lebanon. There will certainly be congressmen and U.S. commentators who will raise their voices in a scream: For how long will U.S. soldiers be killed in Beirut, and for what? It will not be easy for the administration to repel this offensive and explain that without standing firm on the outskirts of Beirut, U.S. credibility would also be lost in both Europe and Central America, where a desperate struggle is now going on between the two superpowers.

The U.S. Marines headquarters, which the boobytrapped car infiltrated yesterday, is close to Beirut airport. It was at a nearby site that the national reconciliation conference of all the fighting parties in Lebanon had been scheduled to take place. However, Syria's Lebanese allies claimed that area was not safe, and it was impossible to hold the reconciliation conference there. The discussions about the site for the conference went on for weeks until it was finally decided to convene it in Geneva. Even before yesterday's explosion there were those who thought the Syrians and their allies had deliberately directed the Lebanese conference to Geneva so as to give it, in this way, the format of the 1973 Geneva conference in which two superpowers participated, the United States and the Soviet Union. If this really was the intention, it is very doubtful whether the explosion at U.S. Marines headquarters brought the Soviets any closer to this objective. The Americans will certainly not agree to negotiations in the shadow of that explosion, in which they did not have the upper hand. If the Soviets really do leave the negotiations in Geneva on arms limitations in Europe at the beginning of the

month in the wake of the stationing of the U.S. Cruise missiles, it may be assumed that the United States will not agree to talk with the Soviets in Geneva about a settlement [hesder] in Lebanon.

And, since these options of talking with the Soviet Union are not open to the United States, it has no choice but to continue to do its duty in Lebanon.

This will not be an easy task. However, the other possibility — giving up on Beirut — is graver. It would mean a sort of surrender to the Syrians in Lebanon and a surrender to the Soviet Union in Europe.

And President Reagan will not be able to bear this seal of surrender, certainly not in an election year, even if there are those who put the blame on Israel, as though it had gotten the United States involved in this "Lebanese adventure."

This accusation will not detract from the powerful scorn that a U.S. retreat at such a time could bring to the United States.

From this it follows that it is not to be assumed that the Americans, today mourning their sons who fell in Beirut, will flee from the campaign. They will not abandon Beirut.

MA'ARIV Fears Stepup in Arms Race in Mideast

TA211452 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 21 Oct 83 p 21

[Commentary by Moshe Zaq: "A Task Force to Jordan — and Compensation to Israel"]

[Excerpts] It is hard to believe, but it is a fact — and one kept secret for over 20 years — that in the first meeting between King Husayn and Levi Eshkol's personal representative, the Jordanian king asked the Israeli envoy for Israeli Government help to improve relations with the United States.

The meeting was initiated by Husayn, who asked the Israeli prime minister to send him a secret envoy in London. Only to that envoy would the king submit his request.

Twenty years and 1 month have passed since that meeting, and today it is the U.S. Administration that is asking Israel not to intercede with U.S. public opinion about arming two Jordanian brigades which are supposed to become Jordan's rapid deployment force in the Persian Gulf.

Even when it lobbied the U.S. Administration to support Husayn, Israel had reservations about translating this support into plans to supply tanks and aircraft. After all, deep inside, Israel always feared that the same colonel who only a few days ago served in the Jordanian Army would overnight turn into Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], who is rebelling against 'Arafat, or into 'Abdallah Tall and General Abu Nawar, who crossed the lines.

This position has guided all Israeli governments throughout the years. However, each time the U.S. Administration sought to arm Jordan, it always looked for a way to compensate Israel.

The signals arriving from Washington now, to the effect that a visit by Defense Minister Moshe Arens is expected, may be pointing at discussions over the "compensation" that the administration is ready to give Israel in exchange for its coming to terms with the U.S. plan, which the administration portrays as part of the West's strategic deployment that is in no way related to the Israeli-Arab conflict.

This week, at the State Department, when Ambassador Me'ir Rosenne asked why the United States was equipping Jordan with weapons without making this conditional on Jordan's joining the Camp David process, he was told that the two issues were not being linked, that the needs of strategic deployment were one thing and the Israeli-Arab conflict was something else altogether.

This distinction may be positive because it does not bring up a revival of the "Reagan plan" to secure U.S. interests in the region. On the other hand, it may step up the superpowers' arms race in the region, a race which is already bothering Israel. The Soviet Union has stepped up the arming of Syria, not only because of Israel's strength but also due to the U.S. AWACS supplied to Saudi Arabia. The Soviet Union is calculating the reservoirs of U.S. weapons in the Middle East and is trying to station a similar quantity of Soviet arms opposite them.

Therefore, even if the Soviet Union not long ago supplied SAM-8 missiles to Jordan, it will not view well the establishment of a new Jordanian force equipped with U.S. weapons. The Soviet Union may retaliate in the arms sphere, and Israel will find itself caught in the middle of the race between the two superpowers.

It is hard for us to forget that Soviet weapons began arriving in the Middle East upon the establishment of the Baghdad alliance. Israel was opposed to the founding of that alliance, which led to the supply of large quantities of weapons to Iraq. Envious of Iraq, Egypt appealed to the Soviets and received the weapons which led to the arms race and to the wars since 1955.

Hence, a preliminary dialogue between Israel and the United States is important before the United States embarks on the road of arming Jordan.

The lesser U.S.- Jordanian cooperation in Oman did not help the "Reagan plan" and did not obviate Husayn's need for 'Arafat's consent. This cooperation, however, could continue as long as it kept modest dimensions and did not arouse the suspicions of Palestinians holding many key positions in the Gulf emirates. Once the U.S. plan to include the Jordanians in the rapid deployment force was exposed, Jordan became sensitive about this cooperation, just as, at the time, Husayn was deterred from joining the "Baghdad alliance," despite pleading by the British and Americans, for fear of demonstrations by the Palestinians. Therefore, the rapid deployment plan is expected to be shelved, and all that might remain of it is the arming of two Jordanian brigades by the United States and the supply of Hercules cargo planes to Jordan. Israel must contemplate such a possibility: Should it insist on the principle that Jordan not be armed at an accelerated pace, or should it ask for appropriate compensation from the United States?

—If it insists on opposition to the accelerated arming of Jordan as long as Jordan does not join the Camp David process, does Israel stand a chance to win this struggle during an election year in the United States?

—Conversely, might Israel lose the opportunity to receive appropriate compensation which would ease its economic distress, distress stemming from the arms race we have been involved in for so many years?

In its struggle against the supply of the AWACS, Israel got into a maze. At the beginning there were those who spoke about $600 million in compensation, while others were firmly opposed to this. The outcome was that the administration beat the Senate and overcame its rivals, Israel's friends, and the promised compensation only took the form of a loan, rather than a grant, and even that did not arrive all at once.

The tactical mistakes made during the AWACS affair should not be repeated. An immediate and straightforward decision is needed between looking for compensation and making efforts to put off the arming on Israel's eastern border, even if that comes under the banner of a task force far away from our borders.

Burg Comments on Lebanon Border Crossings
TA241750 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1730 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Jerusalem, 24 Oct (ITIM) — Over the past 12 months, cars loaded with war materiel and explosives have been captured at the border crossing points along the Lebanese border. One car even penetrated Israel, but a serious disaster was prevented thanks to the fact that it was later caught. These facts were disclosed today by Interior Minister Dr Yosef Burg in the course of a tour he conducted of southern Lebanon.

Minister Burg added that between the beginning of August 1982 and 21 October 1983, 164,000 Lebanese citizens crossed the Rosh Haniqra and Metulla border crossing points in both directions, and he said he believed that during that period hundreds of cars also crossed the border. Therefore, Minister Burg believes that automobile traffic from north of the Al-Awwali south or from southern Lebanon into Israel should be stopped. Burg believes it would be desirable for those Lebanese inhabitants who wish to enter Israel to reach the border crossing points by car and from there continue by bus.

Recently the Transportation Ministry submitted a bill for the government ministries' review which suggests converting the border crossing points into civilian points and transferring them to the Airport Authority to handle, just like the border crossing points with Egypt. The current state of affairs is that both the Interior Ministry and the Israeli Police are jointly responsible for the border crossing points, but supervision and guard work there is entrusted to the IDF.

ITIM adds that a commission headed by Interior Ministry Director General Yehudit Huebner recommended converting the border crossing points into civilian points, and this proposal is in the final stages of examination by the Finance Ministry regarding manpower allocations and budgeting.

It should be noted that at present the policy is to permit free passage of civilians for humanitarian reasons, and the Interior Ministry is issuing entry permits valid for a period of between 7 days and 4 weeks.

Strike Staged in Several S. Lebanon Villages
TA250826 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Business and schools in a number of Shi'ite villages in southern Lebanon are on strike today in protest against the incident in which three local residents were killed by IDF soldiers last week. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht notes that although the Shi'ite leadership in Beirut called for staging a complete strike and for a demonstration, the strike this morning is partial and no disturbances have been reported. Lebanese Government officials paid visits to businessmen this morning asking them not to join the strike.

Finance Minister Explains Policy to U.S. Visitors
TA241257 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Today Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad expressed his regrets about the losses the people have suffered, the people holding bank shares. There was an unrealistic, rushed approach to the shares market, Yig'al Kohen-Orgad said, but we are living in reality. We must return to having the bank shares also become actual assets. Here is our economic correspondent Gadi Sukenik:

[Begin recording] [Sukenik] In a speech to visitors from the United States, the finance minister repeated: The government has begun an economic policy aimed at decreasing the deficit in the balance of payments by 50 percent within 2 years. This will be through aid to exports to help them increase and a parallel decrease in imports. It will not be easy, he said. It will take a contribution and even a sacrifice from the well-established people among us whose standard of living will be lowered. The weaker classes will not be hurt.

[Kohen-Orgad — in English] It's not going to be easy. It's not just a technical change. It is a change that will need, you can call it contribution, you can call it a sacrifice, from a broad part of the Israeli population, who will have to reduce to more than some extent, on a temporary basis, its standard of living, with one condition: that the low-income groups will not take part in this sacrifice.

[Sukenik] The finance minister said that the stock exchange had reopened this morning, and the public had proved to be mature and logical. After the rush for foreign currency stopped, there were requests for securities and now even some requests for bank shares. The rate of the sales of shares was only 3 percent of the total volume of shares. The government's involvement in support for the shares was smaller than my rosiest dreams, Yig'al Kohen-Orgad said. There will now certainly be economic elements that will regard the shares as worth purchasing.

[Kohen-Orgad — in English] I can say that the first stage is now — we now overcame the problems of this first stage, and we can now go on, on our planned, step-by-step policy for a balanced growth, for a growth that will supply work to every Israeli that really needs it, that wants it and that will supply the nation with its needs for foreign currency.

[Sukenik] We have overcome the first obstacle on the economic path, Yig'al Kohen-Orgad said, and we will continue, step-by-step, toward a balanced growth that will supply work for every Israeli who wants it, and supply the nation with all its needs in foreign currency. [end recording]

Herzog Scheduled To Leave for U.S. 14 Nov
TA230707 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 23 Oct 83 p 2

[Text] President Hayim Herzog will leave for the United States on November 14, it was announced Friday.

Herzog, invited by the Council of Jewish Federations of the U.S. and Canada, will speak at the council's general assembly in Atlanta. He will also address the UN General Assembly.

Herzog is scheduled to meet with President Ronald Reagan at the White House as well as with various administration officials, congressmen, heads of Jewish organizations, students and others.

IDF To Cut Number of Brigadier Generals
TA221959 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] As a result of the Defense Ministry's decision to cut the number of officers holding high-level ranks — unless this is required by the job description — the number of officers holding the rank of brigadier general has been slashed by 25 percent. Our military correspondent Moshe Shlonsky emphasizes that this does not mean that the IDF is cutting down on posts or positions, but that this move entails the retirement of brigadier generals for whom no appropriate position can be found and whose chances for promotion within the IDF are slim.

Our correspondent points out that over the past few years the number of officers holding the rank of brigadier general has grown a lot, and Defense Minister Moshe Arens decided as early as he took office to prevent high-level officers in the IDF from being promoted unless it is determined that their job description requires that rank.

MK Savidor Pessimistic About Liberal Party Future
TA220913 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] Knesset Speaker Menahem Savidor says that the rift in the Liberal Party is very deep and that he is not optimistic about the continued existence of the party.

Savidor says that the party's ministers forgot that leadership is not merely a matter of a title. They see the party as their private property and during the discussions over a new finance minister they tried to divide the party's assets without consulting its members.

SHELI Denies Participation in New Party
TA221829 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1820 GMT 22 Oct 83

["Announcement by the SHELI Spokesperson" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Tel Aviv, 22 Oct (ITIM) — The SHELI executive, headed by Ran Kohen, welcomes "Alternative" on its new path, and hopes that in the future it will not have to resort to attribute others' achievements to itself.

The SHELI faction is not part of Alternative, nor does it have any plans to become part of it, and it demands that no use be made of its name for political purposes.

AL-FAJR Poll Shows W. Bank Support for 'Arafat
TA231115 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] A public opinion poll published by *Al-Fajr* in East Jerusalem shows that 93.5 percent of the territories' residents support Yasir 'Arafat and his leadership of the PLO. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the poll was conducted over a period of 2 weeks, and 6,000 people from the territories took part in it. Our correspondent got the impression that the questions in the poll were phrased tendentiously. In an editorial accompanying the results of the poll, *Al-Fajr* says that the results give a smashing answer to all forces hostile to the PLO, who, according to *Al-Fajr*, harm the unity of the Palestinian line.

ALGERIA

President Bendjedid Receives Andropov Message

LD242238 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid today received a message from the Soviet head of state, Yuriy Andropov, in the context of traditional exchanges of opinions. In this message Mr Andropov touches on the great international problems in the light of the latest world developments. The CPSU general secretary dealt in particular with the problems of the Middle East, the Western Sahara, Chad, Namibia and disarmament.

FLN, Guinean Delegation Discuss African Issues

LD211239 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] The National Liberation Front [FLN] and the Guinean Democratic Party are to hold periodical meetings at the highest level and are to foster dia'ogue on all issues of bilateral, African, and world interest with a view to promoting and consolidating the wishes of their peoples under the best conditions. This is one of the most important achievements of the visit and, above all, of the talks in Algiers attended by an important Guinean delegation headed by Mr Camara, president of the Guinean Parliament and member of the Guinean Democratic Party Politburo.

The first high-level contacts between the Guinean and the Algerian delegation have already permitted a rather wide exchange of views. The two parties noted with satisfaction that in spite of ploys of all kinds, Africa keeps winning great victories in achieving its political independence and on the way to realizing its economic independence. Reviewing the situation in southern Africa, the two parties condemned the inhumane apartheid policy of the Pretoria regime in South Africa and denounced the aggressive actions which keep being perpetrated against the countries of the front line.

On the situation in Namibia, the two parties firmly condemn the illegal occupation of this territory by the racist regime of Pretoria and denounce all the equivocal measures which, in blatant violation of the resolutions of the international community, are aimed at delaying Namibia's independence under the supervision of its sole and unique representative, the South-West African People's Organization. The two parties reiterated their attachment to Resolution 435 of the security treaty of the United Nations and have rejected the pretext which links Namibia's independence with the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola.

Guinea and Algeria furthermore expressed their strong concern in face of the aggravation of the Chadian conflict. They reaffirmed, in this instance, the principles and the conditions which must contribute to promoting the restoration of peace in Chad which are the withdrawal of all foreign troops, the end of foreign intervention and interference, national reconciliation, and respect for the unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Chad. In this respect, they requested that the provisions contained in the communique of the 19th OAU summit be fulfilled and stressed their adherence to the efforts undertaken by the OAU with a view to promoting, within an African framework, a negotiated solution to the Chadian crisis.

Analyzing the situation in northwest Africa, the two parties insisted on the need to apply fully the resolution of the 19th OAU summit on the matter and said they are willing to act toward this aim in a brotherly manner. It must be recalled that the president of the Guinean Parliament left Algiers this morning and called his visit fruitful.

Communique on Visit

LD221246 Algiers APS in English 1013 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] The official visit paid in Algeria by the Politburo delegation from Guinea Democratic Party was sanctioned by a joint communique. "At the invitation of the FLN Party Politburo, a delegation from the Politburo of Guinea Democratic Party led by Mr Damantag Camara, Politburo member of Guinea Democratic Party and People's National Assembly president, paid an official visit in Algeria from 17 to 20 October 1983." During these talks, it was proceted [as received] to the examination of relations between the National Liberation Front (FLN) Party and Guinea Democratic Party (PDG) as well as the analysis of the situation in Africa, the Middle East and the world.

Dealing with the situation in Africa in the present international context, the two parties noted that the action of imperialism aims at postponing Africa's total and definitive liberation, to raise artificial tensions between African peoples committed in tasks of national edification. They highly denounced all the imperialist and neo-colonialist manoeuvres aiming at creating and maintaining zones of clashes between brother peoples and African friends.

The two parties registered with satisfaction, that despite manoeuvres of all kinds, Africa is still leading great victories in the achievement of its political independence and in the way of the resolute achievement its economic independence. [sentence as received] Examining the situation in Australe Africa, the two parties seriously condemned the apartheid inhuman policy of Pretoria's regime in South Africa and denounced the cowardly aggressions it is still perpetrating against front line countries. The two parties renewed their indefectible support to the struggle led by the martyr people of South Africa under the ANC leadership. Concerning the situation in Namibia, the two parties vigorously condemned the illegal occupation of this territory by Pretoria's racialist regime as they reiterated their attachment to the 435 Resolution of the UN Security Council and rejected the pretext which consists in linking Namibia's independence to the Cuban forces withdrawal from Angola.

Examining the Chad question, the two parties expressed their high preoccupation before the aggravation of the Chadian conflict. They reaffirmed, in this regard, principles and conditions which are to contribute to the promotion of the re-establishment of peace in Chad — i.e., the withdrawal of all the foreign troops, the stopping of foreign interferences and interventions, the national reconciliation, the respect of national unity and sovereignty, as well as Chad territorial integrity.

In this regard they asked for the implementation in the best delays of dispositions of the 19th OAU summit communique in order to promote in an [words indistinct] a negotiated solution to the Chadian crisis. [sentence as received] Analyzing the situation in northwest Africa, the two parties expressed their high preoccupation before the persistence of Western Sahara conflict. They insisted upon the necessity to fully apply the 19th OAU summit resolution. The Middle East crisis was also particularly examined by the two parties and they reiterated in this regard their constant support to the Palestinian people's struggle under PLO sponsorship, its unique and legitimate representative for the establishment of its inalienable rights including its right to the creation of a soveriegn and independent state.

The two parties hailed the results of the Geneva conference on Palestine and pointed out that any just settlement of the Middle East problem must imply PLO participation, and the Palestinian people coming back to its homeland and the restitution of all the occupied territories including Jerusalem. Reaffirming their indefectible attachment to the non-alignment principles and objectives, the two parties pointed out that the policy of this movement remains more than ever an irreplaceable factor in the struggle for the liberation and the total liberation of peoples, the settlement of international problems, the promotion of international cooperation of the basis of equality, safeguard of peace, a security in the world, and the setting up of a more equitable world economic order.

Talks Begin With Venezuelan Energy Minister

LD221305 Algiers APS in Arabic 0800 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] Algiers, 22 Oct (APS) — Belkacem Nabi, Algerian minister of energy and petrochemical industries and member of the FLN Central Committee, Jose Ignacio Moreno Leon, Venezuelan energy and mines minister, began talks here yesterday evening. The two ministers will be discussing the situation in the world oil market on the eve of the OPEC Control Committee meeting which is scheduled to take place on 27 October in Vienna. The Venezualan minister arrived in Algeria yesterday afternoon on a working visit to last 2 days. In a statement on arrival he said that the committee will discuss at its 27 October meeting the world oil market situation since its last meeting in Vienna on 15 September. He said that the committee will ensure respect for the decisions taken by OPEC during its ordinary meeting in London last March, which fixed an upper ceiling for oil production at 17.5 million barrels per day, fixed the price of crude at $29 per barrel, and fixed production quotas for OPEC member countries.

With regard to the first two points, the Venezuelan minister noted that there is no lack of respect by the OPEC member countries. However, he said, the committee has noted certain deviations by some members with regard to the third point of production quotas. With regard to relations with non-OPEC countries, the Venezuelan minister said that he had recently begun contacts with Mexico and Britain, adding that the two countries showed goodwill with regard to the stabilization of the oil market and the drawing up of a comprehensive policy and strategy on oil.

Delegation Confers With Officials

LD231533 Algiers APS in English 1015 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Algiers, 23-10-83 (APS) — A Venezuelan delegation headed by Mr Ignacio Moreno Leon, minister of energy and mines, made a visit in Algiers on the 21, 22 October 1983. During his stay Mr Moreno was audienced by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic, FLN Party secretary general, to whom he handed over a message from the Venezuelan President Mr Herrera Campins. The Venezuelan delegation visit came within the framework of a tour of concertation with some OPEC member countries (Algeria, Libya, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia) on the eve of the monthly meeting of the Monitoring Ministerial Committee of OPEC which will be held as from 27 coming October in Vienna in which Algeria, and Venezuela are members and for less than two months of the 69 the OPEC ordinary conference expected for December in Geneva. [sentence as received]

During his stay the Venezuelan minister of energy and mines and the delegation which accompanies him had talks with Mr Belkacem Nabi, CC member, minister of energy and petrochemical industries attended by its close collaborators. [sentence as received] These talks enabled the two delegations to confront their analysis over the recent evolution of the market situation and its probable impact on the OPEC country members and to discuss the actions and measures to reaffirm the OPEC position and reinforce its cohesion. The two delegations reaffirmed on this occasion their countries faithfulness to the respect of OPEC decisions especially that of the extraordinary conference of March 1983 in London. Mr Moreno also met with the minister of agriculture, and agrarian revolution, and the minister of culture with whom he dealt with the prospects of the development of the cooperation between the two countries.

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Arrives

LD242138 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam arrived in Algiers this evening on a visit during which he will hold talks with Algerian officials. He was welcomed at the airport by Brothers Abdelkader Azzout, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, and Najib Bulbina, head of the Asian and Latin American desk at the same ministry.

LIBYA

Tripoli on Beirut Bombings, U.S. Reaction

LD250630 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 24 Oct 83

["Political Commentary"]

[Excerpts] After hearing the news of the heroic operation of the heroes of Lebanese resistance, the head of the U.S. Administration began to make hysterical statements. He could not control himself. He was like a bull in a china shop and this was a natural reaction to the news, which came to him and to his administration like a thunderbolt and made him cut short his hours of rest in

Georgia and return to Washington. By such statements he hoped to pour cold water on the anger of U.S. public opinion against his reckless policies. He imagined that through such statements he could wipe out the effect this daring and heroic operation had had, an operation that has come as an objective expression and a natural reaction to all the crimes which have been committed and are still being committed by the U.S. Administration in Lebanon and the Arab homeland.

We, the sons of this angry generation and the sons of the Arab nation are entitled to be proud of the birth of the new heroes of our nation who have begun to besiege the U.S. forces of invasion and repel them, trailing defeat, these invading forces which seek to subjugate the Arab homeland as a single political entity to the U.S. military strategy which, events prove, has not gained from its past experiences.

The so-called Multinational Forces come to Lebanon under the cover of international peace as a peacekeeping force, but incidents and events have proved that they are no less than hordes of invaders which have come to Lebanon to bolster the power of the isolationist Phalange. The recent atttitude toward the mountain war and the conflict which is now going on between the patriotic forces and the isolationist and fascist Phalangist forces is sufficient proof of this. The U.S. Marines preferred to stand alongside the isolationist government with their intensive shelling of the positions of the patriotic forces.

By this attitude, they have chosen sides in a domestic conflict to which they were not a party and this is in contradiction of the basic mission for which they came and this justifies the hostile attitude of the patriotic resistance toward them. Indeed, the head of the U.S. Administration stressed in his statement yesterday after a meeting in Washington that the U.S. Marines will remain in Lebanon. This statement was followed by statements from the other officials of the U.S. Administration which reflected their hot temper; they started to threaten and swear retaliation.

The U.S. National Security Council at its emergency meeting also threatened those who carried out the operation. It seems that the U.S. Administration is bent on continuing in its adventures. It has dispatched U.S. Marine reinforcements, who left their Carolina base on their way to Beirut. In another statement, the U.S. defense secretary affirmed that the U.S. Administration has no intention of withdrawing its forces from Lebanon.

It makes no difference whether the Washington rulers make threats or not, the flame of Lebanese patriotic resistance has had its effect and it is no use making bombastic statements or embarking on a propaganda war. Those who carried out the operation are sons of this angry revolutionary generation which lost in the cauldron of the Lebanese war thousands and thousands of martyrs as a result of the conspiracies of U.S. imperialism and its support for the Zionist state. The operation, furthermore, did not take place in Washington but was directed against the U.S. Marines on a soil which does not belong to them and to which they came under the slogans of peace, changing afterward into invasion forces.

This is a legitimate right of the Lebanese patriotic resistance. If the officials of the U.S. Administration believe that they have vital interests in the Arab homeland and in Lebanon, they ought to fully understand that this homeland will not welcome them with garlands of roses and flowers, but it will direct at them the wrath of this generation which was manifested in daring operations like the destruction of the headquarters of the Zionist forces in Tyre, the U.S. Embassy operation in Beirut, and latest, but not last, operation against the headquarters of the U.S. Marines and the French forces. The U.S. Administration should fully understand that the Lebanese patriotic resistance, if the U.S. forces step up their intervention in Lebanon, be it by reinforcing the U.S. Marines or any other similar action, will retaliate and deal two blows for one and will carry out more operations which are more daring in their confrontation with the invaders and the new crusaders.

It appears from the various statements which the generals of the U.S. Administration make in Washington that their intentions tend toward expanding the aggression and further interference in Lebanon whether by occupying the hills surrounding Beirut or despatching reinforcements. In the face of these expansionist and hostile intentions, the Lebanese patriotic resistance and the Arab people have nothing left but resistance and steadfastness through similar operations and direct confrontation. It is far better for the U.S. Administration to withdraw its forces quietly instead of fleeing in defeat from Lebanon as they did when they had to leave Vietnam.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Message From Saudi King

LD241914 Tripoli JANA in English 1703 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 18, Oct 24, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has received a message from the king of Saudi Arabia, Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. It read as follows:

"I received the message from you sent me on the events taking place in the brotherly country Lebanon, appreciating your continued efforts in following what is going on in the Arab area, following events that need attention and awareness, I do assure you that the Saudi Arabian Kingdom gives great attention to the events in the area. The Saudi Arabian Kingdom gives great attention to continue work that will pay back the Arab nation with tranquility and to help it to strengthen its love and brotherhood, something which will strengthen its power and cooperation towards all that leads to its good and development. We wish you good health and happiness and to the brotherly Libyan people continued development and progress. To you my greetings and gratitude."

Tripoli Reports Power Struggle in Egypt

NC220815 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] Press sources in Paris have revealed the existence of a power struggle within the Egyptian regime. This struggle led to the dismissal of Usamah al-Baz, Husni Mubarak's adviser [for political affairs], on the eve of the Egyptian president's departure for the United States. The press sources added that the struggle involved the chief members of the regime. The Egyptian presi-

dent is trying to remedy the situation within this context by appointing a new adviser to succeed the dismissed Al-Baz.

Iranian Under Secretary Arrives in Tripoli

LD221358 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0200 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, 22 oct (JANA) — Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, under secretary of the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the accompanying delegation arrived in Tripoli last night.

Received by Liaison Secretary

LD221958 Tripoli JANA in English 1817 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 16, October 22, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Foreign Liaison Secretary Mr 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi this morning received the Iranian Foreign Ministry's Undersecretary Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam and his accompanying delegation and discussed methods of bolstering bilateral cooperation between both countries.

Received by Jallud

LD231910 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, 23 Oct (JANA) — Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud received today Brother Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, the deputy minister for political affairs at the Iranian Foreign Ministry, and the accompanying delegation who are currently visiting the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Discusses Issues With Jallud

GF241748 Tehran IRNA in English 1712 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 24, IRNA — In a meeting between the political deputy of Foreign Ministry, Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam and Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud of Libya issues of mutual interest between Iran and Libya were discussed Sunday in Tripoli, Libya. During the meeting, which lasted for five hours, Sheykh ol-Eslam explained the latest developments on the battlefields of the Iraqi imposed war and the recent victories of Islamic defenders as well as the bombardment of the southern cities of Dezful and Masjed Soleyman. He also reiterated the unwavering determination of the Islamic Republic to achieve its justified rights. Mr Jallud reciprocally announced Libya's support for the Islamic Republic in its campaign against Saddam's regime.

The situation of Lebanon, Palestine and the conspiracies and aggressions of imperialism, Zionism, and regional reactionary regimes against Muslim forces as well as the policies to campaign against these aggressions were among issues discussed in this meeting. Sheykh ol-Eslam arrived in Tripoli Saturday after concluding three days of talks with President Hafiz al-Asad and other Syrian officials in Damascus. During his first day of visit, he held talks with the Libyan foreign minister, 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, and discussed the latest developments concerning the world of Islam, Lebanese and Palestinian issues.

YAR Chief of Staff Arrives 21 Oct

LD211501 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Lieutenant Colonel 'Abdullah al-Bashiri, chief of the YAR General Staff and member of the permanent committee of the People's General Congress, arrived in Tripoli today at the head of a delegation, on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. Chief of the General Staff of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, Brigadier General Mustafa al-Kharrubi, headed those at hand to welcome the Yemeni guest and members of his delegation at Tripoli International Airport. Others included senior Armed Forces officers and the YAR ambassador to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. In a statement to JANA, he expressed pleasure at visiting Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, saying the visit is part of the exchange of visits between the two countries seeking to bolster fraternal relations between the two peoples and enhance them to serve the interests of our two peoples' expectations and our Arab nation's aspirations to unity.

Received by Jabir

LD231619 Tripoli JANA in English 1426 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 17, October 23, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir yesterday received Lt Col 'Abdullah al-Bashiri, the North Yemeni Armed Forces chief of staff and member of the Permanent Committee of the Yemen Arab Republic's General People's congress, together with his accompanying delegation.

Meets Chief of Staff

LD231623 Tripoli JANA in English 1427 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 17, October 23, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Libyan Arab Armed Forces Chief of Staff Brigadier Mustapha al-Kharrubi yesterday morning received the North Yemeni Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lt Col 'Abdullah al-Bashiri, who is also member of the Permanent Committee of the Yemen Arab Republic's General People's Congress, together with an accompanying delegation.

Departs for Home

LD242043 Tripoli JANA in English 1801 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 18, Oct 24, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Lt Col Abdullah 'Abdullah al-Bashiri, the chief of the Armed Forces and member of the permanent committee for the People's General Congress in the Yemen Arab Republic, and the delegation accompanying him have left Tripoli today. Brigadier Mustapha al-Kharrubi, chief of staff of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces saw him off at Tripoli International Airport. The chief of staff of the Navy, the air and field forces and the the Air Defence also attended the farewell. The chief of the staff and member of the People's General Congress told the JANA correspondent that he and all the Yemeni delegation are very happy with the positive results of this visit which will be a factor

in strengthening the fraternal relationship between the two countries. He added that "I would like to express our great appreciation and admiration to the great victories that the Libyan Arab people have achieved after the fatih great revolution."

He added that these great achievements that Jamahiriyah is witnessing at present on all fields are not only victories for Jamahiriyah but to the whole Arab nation.

Armed Forces Commander Receives PLO Dissident
LD241117 Tripoli JANA in English 0843 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 18, October 24, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir yesterday evening received a delegation representing the new revolutionary movement in "Fatah" headed by Lt Col Wasif 'Urayqat (Abu Ra'd).

SUDAN

Press Statement Denounces Beirut Explosions
JN242045 Khartoum SUNA in English 1900 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Khartoum Oct. 24 (SUNA) — The Foreign Ministry of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan today issued a press statement denouncing the aggression against the position of the U.S. and French forces in Beirut yesterday and called for putting an end to violence which is blocking the peace efforts in Lebanon and to contain the consequeces of the accident. The statement said that Sudan has been [word indistinct] with concern the exerted efforts for maintaining peace in Lebanon. Sudan has always been calling for the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon as the first step for the total withdrawal of the foreign forces and that to enable Lebanon to find out a formulation for a national dialogue solving for the Lebanese issue.

Ceausescu Leaves Sudan After Talks 24 Oct
JN241211 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1050 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Oct (SUNA) — Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu left Khartoum at 0930 today after a 3-day visit to Sudan. At 0800 today, Presidents Numayri and Ceausescu signed a joint statement on the Romanian president's visit to Sudan during which the bilateral relations between the two countries in the economic, technical, and political fields as well as the issues of common interest were discussed. President Numayri made a short speech following the signing ceremony, which was attended by the members of the two sides, in which he expressed his delight for the signing of the joint statement, affirming that it gives impetus to promoting the developing relations between the two countries and also affirming Sudan's concern about promoting cooperation between the two countries.

President Numayri said he promised President Ceausescu to reconsider the reopening of the Sudanese Embassy in Romania at the first possible opportunity, despite the hardships which Sudan is facing with regard to governmental expenditure. He pointed out that President Ceausescu expressed desire to build premises for the Romanian Embassy in Sudan and that he had decided to offer a piece of land for this purpose.

President Ceausescu replied by affirming that the signing of the joint statement opens new opportunities to strengthen the developing relations between the two countries. He added that the joint statement expresses mutual understanding during the talks in all fields of common concern and constitutes a strong push toward developing the relations of cooperation between the two countries. The Romanian president thanked Sudan's people and government for their good hospitality and warm reception, stressing that the cooperation between Sudan and Romanian will strengthen international detente and achieve disarmament and world peace. President Ceausescu invited President Numayri to visit Romania at the earliest possible opportunity, and wished progress and prosperity for Sudan.

TUNISIA

Es-Sebsi Voices Bourguiba Regret at 'Aggression'
LD241908 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba this morning received Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi, who made the following statement after the audience:

President Habib Bourguiba learned with deep sorrow of the bloody aggression committed in Beirut causing numerous victims, including American and French soldiers of the Multinational Forces in Lebanon. Tunisia regrets these new acts of violence, which have been disturbing Lebanon's security with their tragedies for many years. Tunisia hopes that wisdom and reason will succeed in overcoming this painful situation, and that these aggressions, despite their gravity, will not harm peace in Lebanon and the efforts being exerted for the good of the homeland . It is recalled that Beji Caid es-Sebsi met yesterday with the American and French ambassadors to Tunisia. He expressed the Tunisian Government's condolences to the U.S. and French Governments and the families of the victims.

Prime Minister, Bahraini Counterpart Hold Talks
LD211402 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] At noon today President Bourguiba received in audience at the Republican Palace in Carthage, Bahraini Prime Minister Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah and his accompanying delegation, in the presence of Prime Minister Mzali and a number of ministers.

Prime Minister Mzali had separate talks with the Bahraini prime minister this morning. At the end of the 40-minute meeting, Mohamed Mzali and Prime Minister Khalifah chaired a plenary working session which included members of the two delegation. TAP has learned that the bilateral relations, which are developing and strengthening, were discussed. The two sides stressed the need to exchange visits and views between officials in both

governments and also [words indistinct]. The possibilities and means of developing trade between the two countries were also discussed, as was cooperation in the fields of press, culture, and information. TAP learned that the situation in the Arabian Gulf and the Greater Arab Maghreb, and means of establishing furture cooperation between the GCC and the Greater Arab Maghreb, were also discussed, and the two delegations exchanged views on international issues.

Present on the Tunisian side were: Foreign Minister Caid es-Sebsi;National Economy Minister Rachid Sfar; Minister of Civil Service and Administration Reform el-Mezri Chekir; Planning Minister Ismail Khalil; Information Minister Abderrazak Kefi; Minister of Culture Bechir Ben Slama; Secretary of State to the Interior Ministry charged with (?National Security)[name indistinct]; Secretary of State to the Foreign Minister charged with International Cooperation Ahmed Mu'ala. On the Bahraini side: Foreign Minister Muhammad ibn Mubarak al-Khalifah; [words indistinct]; Information Minister Tariq 'Abdar-Rahman Al Mu'ayyad; Finance and Economy Minister Ibrahim 'Abd al-Karim. The two countries' ambassadors were also present.

Prime Minister Receives Algerian Delegation Head

LD220843 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali received this evening at the Government Palace in Qasabah Colonel Mostefa Benloucif, member of the Algerian FLN Central Committee and secretary general of the Algerian Defense Ministry, who arrived this afternoon leading a military delegation on an official visit to Tunisia. Col Mostefa Benloucif made a statement to TAP in which he said that he is bearing a message from President Chadli Bendjedid to his brother the great struggler, President Habib Bourguiba, and that his talks with Mohamed Mzali dealt with Algerian-Tunisian relations and other issues that concern the two countries and the Greater Arab Maghreb. The Algerian military delegation's visit to Tunisia is within the framework of strengthening relations between the two peoples (?and) the continuing development of these relations. Finally, he expressed his hope that this visit would correspond to the two people's aspirations and contribute to the good of the supreme interest of the two countries and the region. The meeting was attended by Minister of National Defense Slaheddine Baly and the two countries' ambassadors.

Received by Defense Minister

LD220859 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Minister of National Defense Slaheddine Baly received this evening Colonel Mostefa Benloucif, secretary general of the Algerian Ministry of Defense who is currently paying an official visit to Tunisia leading a military delegation. The meeting was attended by a number of senior Army officers and the two countries' ambassadors. The two delegations held a working session presided over by Slaheddine Baly and Col Mostefa Benloucif, devoted to examining the prospects of cooperation between the two countries' national defense ministeries.

DJIBOUTI

Repatriation of Ethiopian Refugees To Continue

EA211021 Djibouti Domestic Service in Somali 1645 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] The interior minister of the Republic of Djibouti, Mr Yusuf Ali Shirdon, this morning declared once again that the program to repatriate refugees voluntarily to their country [Ethiopia] will continue normally. Over 1,300 refugees have so far returned to their country and others will be voluntarily repatriated to their country on 25 October.

The executive committee of the UNHCR [United Nations Office of High Commissioner for Refugees] held a meeting in Geneva this month and approved in its budget for next year a program to assist refugees in 1984. The amount earmarked for refugees is about $400 million. The refugees in the Republic of Djibouti will receive $4 million and another $3 million for resettling the refugees who are returning to their country. The executive committee of the UNHCR warmly congratulated the Djibouti and Ethiopian Governments for their efforts to end the plight of the refugees who fled from the wars in Ethiopia. The administrator of the Office of the President of Djibouti, Mr Ismail Umar Gelle, attended the UNHCR meeting in Geneva.

SOMALIA

Romanian Deputy Prime Minister Visits Country

SRSP-RCP Talks Held

EA221618 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Bureau chairmen from the Central Committee of the SRSP and the Romanian delegation led by Comrade Ludovic Fazekas, who is a member of the Political Executive Committee of the Romanian Communist Party [RCP] held several hours of official talks at the People's Hall here in Mogadishu. The talks between the Somali and Romanian officials centered on how to implement and strengthen the protocol and cooperation agreements signed between the two parties, the SRSP and the RCP. The SONNA news agency correspondent present during the discussions said that the two sides also discussed bilateral matters pertaining to the strengthening of cooperation in the fields of education, health, protocol, information, twinning the political colleges of the two parties, and general bilateral ties between the two parties.

Meeting With Barre

EA222048 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] Somali Democratic Republic President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre received this evening at the presidency here in Mogadishu Comrade Ludovic Fazekas, member of the Political Executive Committee of the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee and deputy prime minister of the country, and his delegation who are currently paying a brief visit to Somalia. The Romanian delegation paid a courtesy call on the president and delivered a message from Romanian President Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu to President Siad Barre.

In their cordial conversation Challe Siad and the head of the Romanian delegation discussed bilateral relations, the strengthening of cooperation ties between the two countries, and the implementation of the planned projects which the two countries will fund jointly in the Somali Democratic Republic. The president briefed the delegation on the true situation and problems prevailing in the Horn of Africa: how Somalia has striven to assist the large number of refugees present in the country, and its hopes that a meaningful and lasting political solution will be found for their plight.

Challe Siad and the delegation also discussed other matters pertaining to the current international crisis, and the president said that it is imperative for Abyssinia to withdraw its forces immediately from Somali territories it occupies in order to achieve a lasting solution to the crisis prevailing in the region. Challe Siad added that the tension and conflict prevailing in the region is due to the struggle between colonized peoples who are struggling to achieve genuine independence and colonizers who wish not only to cling to the areas already colonized but to expand to new territories. President Challe Siad said the only way to find a peaceful and lasting political solution to the turmoil, insecurity, and instability in the region is to grant the just rights to self-determination to all those who are struggling for them in the Horn of Africa.

President Challe Siad asked the Romanian delegation to convey his greetings to the president, government, and people of the Socialist Republic of Romania. Present on the occasion was the chairman of the Bureau for Foreign Relations of the SRSP Central Committee, Challe Adan Mohamed Ali.

Departure 23 October

EA241956 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Excerpts] The delegation from the Socialist Republic of Romania led by Comrade Ludovic Fezakas, a member of the Political Executive Committee of the Romanian Communist Party and deputy prime minister, left the Somali Democratic Republic last night after a successful visit to the Somali Democratic Republic and talks with senior Somali Democratic Republic Government officials.

Ethiopia Reportedly Training Yemeni Subversives

EA212233 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] An Egyptian monthly, *Al-Wahdah*, published in Cairo, recently disclosed that the leader of the Abyssinian regime had just opened camps near Asesum in the Tigre region for training some Yemeni groups in subversion and sabotage against the lawful Government of the Yemen Arab Republic headed by President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. The paper added that the training

of the groups is being organized by Colonel (Minasie Chisawey), an Abyssinian citizen. This officer trained for a year in Moscow in 1980 in guerrilla warfare and kidnapping tactics. The report added that Mengistu, who is the current OAU chairman, has recently begun plotting subversion against neighboring countries.

WSLF, ELF-PLF Leaders Meet in Mogadishu 22 Oct

EA221633 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] The secretary general of the Western Somali Liberation Front, WSLF, Challe Shaykh 'Abd an-Nasir Adan, this morning received in his office the chairman of the Eritrean Liberation Front-Popular Liberation Forces, ELF-PLF, Mr Osman Saleh Sabeh and his delegation who are currently visiting Somalia. The leaders discussed the strengthening of the cooperation and ties between the two fronts and particularly in the foreign affairs, information, and armed forces sections. During their cordial conversation, Challe 'Abd an-Nasir dwelt in detail on the current situation of the armed struggle being waged by the WSLF against black colonialist Abyssinia, whose forces not only continue occupying the western Somali areas but unleash massacre, oppression, and pillage on the innocent and defenseless people and their livestock.

Challe 'Abd an-Nasir said that the gallant WSLF fighters are currently faced with the problem of attempting peacefully to persuade defenseless citizens of Abyssinia to go back to their home areas before they are caught in the crossfire between the intrepid WSLF fighters and the black colonialist Abyssinian forces. The WSLF secretary general said that the Addis Ababa regime has started a complete new program of settling people of Abyssinian origin in the western Somali areas. Challe 'Abd an-Nasir added that the gallant WSLF fighters will continue their struggle until they achieve a complete and genuine independence.

Mr Osman Saleh Sabeh, speaking on the occasion, said that the Eritrean people have taught the Abyssinian colonizers an unforgettable lesson, and are currently working on how to unify all the factions of the Eritrean liberation fighters. Mr Osman added that it is imperative for all the struggling people of the Horn of Africa to unite because they have only one common enemy — the Abyssinian regime which has usurped their territories. Present at the occasion were members of the Executive and Central Committee of the WSLF.

Press Conference Held

EA241931 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] The chairman of the Eritrean Liberation Front-Popular Liberation Forces of Eritrea, Mr Osman Saleh Sabeh, held a press conference this morning at the Hotel Juba in Mogadishu. The Eritrean liberation official said that the armed struggle of the Eritrean people has achieved victories since the total unification of all factions of Eritrean freedom fighters. The press conference, which was attended by officials from the Western Somalia Liberation Front and Abo and Eritrean movements, as well as local and foreign journalists, heard the Eritrean official report the latest victories of the Eritrean forces against the black colonialist Abyssinian forces and their foreign backers.

Mr Osman Saleh Sabeh said that the ongoing fighting between the Eritrean fighters and colonialist Abyssinia had resulted in total humiliation and defeat for the enemy Abyssinian forces on all fronts. Mr Osman Saleh Sabeh added that the Abyssinian forces turned their weapons on innocent and defenseless Eritrean civilians with no consideration for women, children, or the elderly. The extermination program against the Eritrean people planned by the Addis Ababa regime saw the use of chemical and napalm bombs against civilians and their livestock in the liberation areas of Eritrea. Mr Osman Saleh Sabeh said that the Eritrean people and the liberation forces have proved beyond any reasonable doubt that the foreign bases and troops in Abyssinia encourage the Addis Ababa regime to continue waging war against the Eritrean people. Mr Osman Saleh Sabeh called for the immediate and unconditional closure and withdrawal of all foreign bases and troops on Eritrean territory. Mr Osman Saleh Sabeh said the unification of the Eritrean liberation fronts is a great success for the Eritrean people who are struggling to shake off the black colonialist shackles. Mr Osman Saleh Sabeh concluded by saying that the unity achieved by the Eritrean liberation fronts will accelerate the victory and immediate independence of the Eritrean peoples. At the same time, Mr Osman Saleh Sabeh called on all liberation fronts opposed to the Addis Ababa regime to redouble their efforts for victory against the ugly black colonialist regime of Abyssinia.

Radio Halgan Reports Defections to Opposition

EA211004 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Reports reaching us from the 9th General Aynanshe Division of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia, DFSS, wing of the Somali opposition forces, say that some Somali nationalists have defected to the armed struggle of the DFSS. The reports reaching us from the 9th General Aynanshe Division of the DFSS say that 11 senior officers from the Ministry of Education have joined the DFSS. Among the persons named are: Said Ali Dalab, chairman of the Ministry of Education in Gardo district, eastern region; 'Abd ar-Razzak Warsame Farah, the eastern regional schools inspector; and Abdow Farah Guled, known as (Barder).

TANZANIA

Foreign Minister Comments on RSA Maputo Raid

EA212234 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1000 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Dar es Salaam: The minister for foreign affairs, Ndugu Salim Ahmed Salim, said today that the recent South African attack on the Mozambican capital, Maputo, reminded the international community of the need to give more military assistance to the frontline states to enable them to counterattack Pretoria's aggression. He told reporters at the Dar es Salaam International

Airport on his arrival from New York where he had been attending the UNGA that the attack confirmed the worst fears for peace and security among the frontline states. He said African foreign ministers met the American secretary of state, Mr George Shultz, to express their concern on the Namibian independence issue. Ndugu Salim urged the international community to speed up efforts aimed at reaching Namibian independence. On the defunct East African Community, the minister said he met his counterparts from Kenya and Uganda in New York to discuss how they could facilitate their cooperation. He said they agreed to work in concert towards promotion and normalization of relations between them.

Nairobi Cites Labor Minister on Job Campaign

EA212207 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] The Tanzanian minister for labor and social welfare, Mr Alfred Tandau, has said that the antijobless campaign throughout the country will continue despite mounting protest against the move. The minister warned that anyone attempting to frustrate the operation would face prosecution because the campaign was conducted according to parliamentary legislation which requires all able-bodied persons to work. Mr Tandau's warning comes in the wake of a spate of complaints accusing militiamen and police of harassment and maltreatment and leaving arrested persons without food during their detention. Reports from Dar es Salaam say that four people from neighboring Malawi and Burundi were rounded up during the swoop and were now in the hands of immigration officials. The crackdown for the first time has received the backing of a parliamentary act calling for job conscription in rural areas.

UGANDA

Prime Minister Receives FRG Parliamentarians

EA212209 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Excerpt] A three-man West German delegation, now in Uganda on an official visit, has been received by Prime Minister Otema Alimadi. The delegation, which is accompanied by Uganda's ambassador to West Germany, Mr Obua-Otoa, includes Mr (Kirchmeyer), Mr (Hecklar), and Mr (Hans Peter Raufell). The prime minister informed the parliamentarians about the economic and political situation prevailing in the country. He said the government is determined to maintain the democratic system, human rights, and respect for human dignity as entrenched in the Constitution. The prime minister emphasized that the government believes in a multiparty system, and that is why there is no restriction on the activities of any party in Uganda.

He said the government is disturbed at the decision of the Democratic Party [DP] to boycott the byelections. The amendment of the electoral law which the DP gave as a condition cannot be fulfilled. He pointed out that the present MP's were elected under the same law. Mr Otema Alimadi commended the leadership of the Conservative Party for announcing that they will contest the byelections. He said peace now prevails throughout the country except a few incidences of banditry activities in (?a few) districts by people who refuse to verdict of the electorate. He said, as in any society, one may find a few security personnel misbehaving, and whenever it occurs disciplinary action is always taken.

The meeting was attended by the ministers of state for defense, Mr Peter Otai; of state in the Prime Minister's Office, Mr Osindek Wangwor; the permanent secretary in the Prime Minister's Office, Mr (Yume); the clerk to the National Assembly, Mr (Otuo); the chief relief administrator, Mr (Kokumi); and the West German ambassador to Uganda, Dr Held.

NRA Issues Communique on Latest Offensive

AB210941 Paris AFP in English 0849 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Nairobi, Oct 21 (AFP) — Uganda's rebel National Resistance Army (NRA) said today that its guerrillas had killed at least 150 government troops in its latest offensive. The NRA, commanded by former Defense Minister Yoweri Museveni, said that the Army had been forced to withdraw from the partially marshy region of Ngoma, about 140 kilometres (90 miles) northwest of Kampala. An NRA communique said that 16 companies of guerrillas were operating in the region. They had ambushed government forces, including a supply convoy, on September 9 and 15, and pushed them out of the area on September 25.

The communique alleged that government troops had killed civilians, including four children, raped women, and shot cattle which they then made unfit for consumption by smearing them with excrement. The NRA said that it had managed to equip a whole new section with captured weapons, which included rifles, mortars and machine-guns. Six government vehicles and a helicopter had been destroyed.

In an earlier communique, the NRA, which has been fighting the Kampala regime for more than two years, rejected a call by President Milton Obote at the beginning of this month for former Presidents Yusuf Lule and Godfrey Binaisa to return from exile in London. Mr Lule, who governed for 68 days after the fall of dictator Idi Amin in 1979, is the head of the National Resistance Movement, of which the NRA is the armed wing.

"If Obote had any genuine intention he would have extended his amnesty and reconciliation to those he has put in jails and concentration camps," the communique said. It noted that opponents of the government who responded to a similar invitation nearly two years ago had been arrested, and nothing more had been he d of them.

AFP: NRA Seeks Aid for People Living in North

AB211225 Paris AFP in English 1153 GMT 21 Oct 83

[By Marie-Therese Delboulbes]

[Excerpts] Kampala, Oct 21 (AFP) — Ugandan rebels have asked for aid for more than a million people supposedly living in the areas north of Kampala where they are operating against gov-

ernment troops, according to international humanitarian organizations here. The National Resistance Army (NRA), commanded by former Defense Minister Yoweri Museveni, which has been fighting the regime of Milton Obote since February 1981, has called especially for medical supplies. The guerrillas have offered to give safe conduct to foreign representatives.

Diplomats here thought the figure of 1.5 million people given by the guerrillas was exaggerated, but expressed concern at the fate of thousands of civilians they believe have followed the guerrillas in their retreat from government advances. The NRA suffered serious reverse in an Army offensive earlier this year, and withdrew to the semi-marshland area of Ngoma, some 140 kilometers (90 miles) northwest of Kampala. But in a communique published today the rebels said they had forced government troops to withdraw from the area after killing at least 150 of them.

Nearer the capital, and along the roads from Kampala to Masindi and Hoima, at least 100,000 people displaced by the military operations live in camps and other centres under Army control. The area affected includes parts of the Luwero, Mpigi and Mubende districts, home to about 750,000 people, or six percent of Uganda's population. Excluding those who are in the camps or have fled to safer areas such as Kampala, at least 100,000 people are either still in the bush in Luwero alone or have followed the guerrillas, a member of a humanitarian organization said. A similar number could be affected in Mubende, where some parts are virtually devoid of inhabitants, a diplomat added.

Explanations varied for the disappearance of these farmers from an area which in normal times supplies 20 percent of Uganda's agricultural output and much of its coffee. One diplomat said they were "keeping away from people in uniform," either government soldiers or guerrillas, but for government Minister Edward Rurangaranga, their disappearance into the bush is a sign that they are in league with the NRA, and those who re-emerge are automatically suspect.

For the legal or illegal opposition the civilians have been forced into camps or chased away to give the Army a "free fire zone" in its fight against the rebels. "The strategy to fight the guerrillas is to empty the villages of every living soul," said Paul Ssemogerere, leader of the opposition Democratic Party in Parliament. Undoubtedly the resolution of the crisis depends on the behavior of the Army, which is widely seen as undisciplined. "Development can never take place if they don't have law and order," said one official of an international body.

The Army is trained partly by military instructors from other Commonwealth countries on a two-year assignment. Since March last year they have trained 1,500 officers and NCO's. Other training comes from North Korean artillery specialists, who unlike the Commonwealth instructors take part in combat. At least two were killed by rebels last year.

Finally a private British company, Falconstar, uses former members of the British Special Air Service (SAS) with Falklands and northern Ireland experience to train the "special forces." The number of these units is not known, but they are thought to be between 20,000 and 40,000 men, with a number of good officers. The ordinary soldiers in the field "are young boys from the countryside. They have the power of the gun, but they have no shelter, no soap, no water, no organization to feed them," said Torsten Johansson, a representative of the United Nations Development Program.

The government has promised that camp security would be ensured as far as possible by the police, who are British-trained and have a better public image. The president also promised an easing of restrictions on movement of inmates. "The first thing we want to do is to provide them with emergency relief and then discuss the best way of them going home," he told a recent news conference. "It is not an easy matter. The house may be there, but it is a shell."

CHAD

Habre Departs for Visit to Zaire 22 October

AB221245 Paris AFP in French 1014 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 22 Oct (AFP) — Chadian head of state Hissein Habre left Ndjamena on Saturday morning for Gbadolite (Zaire) for a friendly working visit, it was learned in the Chadian capital. Mr Habre, who is leading an important delegation, including Chadian Defense Minister Rotouang Yoma, will hold talks with Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire.

Zaire has sent over 2,000 soldiers to Chad to support the Habre government in its struggle against the armed rebellion of Transitional National Union Government of President Goukouni Oueddei, supported by Libya. The length of President Habre's visit to Zaire was not specified.

Bardai Comments on Visit

AB242025 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] What is driving the Ndjamena traitor? After his visit to Libreville, Gabon, the leader of the Ndjamena fascist clique left Ndjamena on Saturday, 22 October, for Kinshasa, Zaire. Officially announced as a working, friendly visit, the sudden arrival in the Zairian capital of the renegade president of the FAN command council is a new link in the chain of intrigues being hatched by the two notorious agents of the CIA. After their diplomatic setback suffered at the French-African summit in Vittel, Hissein Habre, the blackmailer, and his friend, dictator Mobutu Tiroir-Caisse [cash register], must draw the necessary lessons. In the Zairian capital, the bridgehead of U.S. imperialism and Zionism in central Africa, one might expect the two associates to open their consultations to include secret envoys from Washington and Tel Aviv or to the U.S. and Israeli envoys in the Zairian capital city. In addition to this, one can expect the executioners of Chadians and Zairians to harmonize their views on political and military matters of mutual interest. On the diplomatic front, the two lackeys in the pay of international imperialism have seen that 1 year after the consecration of Hissein Habre, the big swindler, in Kinshasa at the next-to-last French-African summit, the predictions in favor of the viability of the bloody regime of Ndjamena have proven wrong.

In fact, the Ndjamena clique has not only failed to impose itself on the Chadian political scene in spite of the unlimited assistance granted by its Western masters, but it is also on the brink of an abyss. In the military sphere precisely, the 2,000 Zairian soldiers trained by Israeli and U.S. specialists were pushed into the background upon the arrival of the French Army. Equipped with the same French material as the men of the murderer of Major Galopin, the soldiers of the Zairian contingent stationed in Ndjamena, Mahou, Moundou, and Abeche play the role of reservists at times or of reinforcements for the puppet army when it is losing ground.

As one can see, confronted with this military and diplomatic brainracking problem, the leaders of the Zairian and Chadian reactionary forces will attempt to find a way out of the present diplomatic and military deadlock. In fact, the situation continues to worsen in the zones under French and Zairian occupation. Roads are cut off; liberation army units are stepping up ambushes in the center and in the south of the country; there have been military defeats in the center against National Liberation Army elements. The picture of the military situation is definitely dark for the FAN reactionary forces.

Bardai Radio Says Habre Forces Execute Four

AB241030 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] According to latest report, the antinational forces on 4 October executed four persons — among whom were three civil servants — in Baibokoum. They are: Pierre (Demangue), a health technologist; Thomas (Laoukole), a teacher; (Lawole Joel), an associate teacher; and Andre (Laoulo), a tailor.

CONGO

Sassou-Nguesso Receives Dos Santos Message

MB220757 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] Ismael Martins, the minister of foreign trade, has been received in audience by Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso, the Congolese head of state, to whom he handed a message from Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the Angolan head of state. Minister Ismael Martins told the press shortly thereafter that he had discussed with President Nguesso issues of bilateral interest. Ismael Martins is in Brazzaville, coming from Libreville, Gabon, where he represented President Jose Eduardo dos Santos at the summit of the heads of state of central Africa for the creation of the economic community of the states of the region.

ZAIRE

Habre Makes Statement at Conclusion of Visit

AB240855 Paris AFP in French 1645 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Kinshasa, 23 Oct (AFP) — "The situation in Chad is relatively calm. However, the problems caused by the aggression and occupation of this country by a foreign power remain," Chadian President Hissein Habre stated on Sunday at the end of a 24-hour visit to Zaire. "I cannot tell you if there is a solution in sight," added Mr Habre when leaving Gbadolite, hometown of Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko, located in northeastern Zaire. According to AZAP, the Chadian leader said that his appeal for assistance had been heard, adding that a great number of African countries give assistance to Chad in different forms. Mr Habre and Mr Mobutu on Saturday discussed problems of common interest. President Mobutu arrived a few hours before his Chadian counterpart at Gbadolite, where they attended a church service held on Saturday evening on the occasion of the sixth anniversary of the death of the first wife of the Zairian head of state.

GHANA

Rawlings Orders Arming of PDC Members on Farm

AB250800 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Members of the People's Defense Committee [PDC] in Tobakrom, a village near Weija, where a 200 hectare irrigated farm project is sited, are to be armed to protect the farm from thieves. This decision was taken by Flight Lieutenant J.J. Rawlings, chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], after he had been informed of the activities of farm thieves in the area during an unannounced visit to the site yesterday. The farm is said to be under persistent siege by thieves who are always armed with cutlasses and cudgels and threaten people who patrol the farm. It is cosponsored by the Ghana Government and the EEC. About 150 farmers who are engaged on the farm are growing among others, garden eggs [eggplants], okra, and corn. Speaking as he inspected the farm, Flight Lt Rawlings stressed that it was time Ghanaians stopped shouting about the revolution and turned their attention to more pressing issues.

PNDC Member Receives ANC Official 20 October

AB210825 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] A member of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], Ebow Tawiah, has said racism would have been defeated in South Africa long ago if the apartheid regime had not received support from powerful imperialist countries. He was speaking in Accra yesterday when he received an official of the African National Congress of South Africa, Dan Sinde at the Castle, Osu. Mr Sinde, who is also the ANC permanent representative at the headquarters of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization, AAPSO, in Cairo, is in the country to preprare the ground for the forthcoming Africa regional conference of AAPSO in Ghana early next year.

Mr Ebow Tawiah described the latest raid on the offices of the ANC in Mozambique as a clear manifestation of the desperation of the dying apartheid regime. He said Ghana is conscious of the important role of the AAPSO as a very important bulwark against imperialist and racist domination and neocolonialist exploitation. Mr Tawiah said the people of Ghana, under the PNDC, will therefore continue to support and participate in the work of the organization.

Briefing Mr Sinde on Ghana's revolution, Mr Tawiah said the government is committed to the peaceful settlement of all domestic and international issues. This is demonstrated by its recent amnesty to Ghanaians who have taken a negative attitude toward the revolution to reform and join in the reconstruction of the country. Mr Sinde said Ghana has been chosen as the venue for the AAPSO conference because of the dynamic role she has been playing in the liberation of Africa. Mr Sinde also briefed Mr Tawiah on the ANC's new plan of action against the apartheid regime.

UN Envoy Calls for Eliminating Racism

AB231020 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Ghana has called for a world-wide action by governments to end racism and racial discrimination. Addressing the UN General Assembly (?steering) committee, Ghana's permanent representative at the United Nations, Mr Victor Gbeho, said the elimination of thse social injustices is (?the responsibility) of all countries, and Ghana is prepared to share this international responsibility. Mr Gbeho, who is also the chairman of the committee which monitors the implementation of resolutions against apartheid, attacked some Western countries for their moral and material support for the Pretoria regime. He warned that the handwriting is on the wall of both the perpetrators of apartheid and their collaborators because apartheid represents an unacceptable social injustice that cannot be reformed. Mr Gbeho also criticized Israel for its treatment of Palestinians in occupied Arab territories. The General Assembly's (?steering) committee, which deals with social and humanitarian issues, was debating three items, including all forms of racial discrimination and implementation of the program for the decade for action to combat racism and racial discrimination.

GUINEA

PDG Issues Statement on Sahara Problem

AB240840 Conakry Domestic Service in French 0915 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Excerpts] On Saturday, 22 October 1983, two joint sessions of the Central Committee of the Democratic Party of Guinea [PDG] and the government were held, first from 1300 to 1500 and second from 1930 to 2230, presided over by President Ahmed Sekou Toure, the secretary general of the state party and supreme leader of the revolution. These sessions were exclusively devoted to hearing reports on accounts of missions of the National Political Bureau delegation which paid a working visit to Algeria from 17 to 20 October 1983 at the invitation of the FLN Political Bureau and Central Committee.

Concerning the thorny problem of the Western Sahara, which nearly brought into question the existence of our continental organization, the OAU, and considering that there is a need to employ the most effective procedure to bring about a referendum, the two sides declared their readiness to work in fraternity and loyalty towards the implementation of Resolution 104 of the 19th OAU summit. This means that the implementation committee, which plays an active role as intermediary between the two sides in the conflict, must strive to help organize the referendum through which the Saharan people will express themselves in all freedom. The OAU Resolution 104 in fact urged the two sides to start direct negotiations and invited the implementation committee to draw up modalities for a cease-fire in the Western Sahara, followed by a referendum on self-determination. If the conditions for direct negotiations do not happen to be met, the implementation committee has the duty to strive to carry out its mission because direct negotiations are not an exclusive condition for the implementation of the OAU Resolution 104.

The PDG Central Committee and Government of Guinea expressed pleasure over the acceptance by His Excellency Chadli Benjedid, president of the Algerian People's Democratic Republic and head of state, of the fraternal invitation of President Ahmed Sekou Toure, the secretary general of the PDG and supreme leader of the revolution, to pay a state visit to the people of Guinea at a date of his convenience.

GUINEA-BISSAU

High-Level Members of PAICG Expelled, Suspended

WA211632 Paris Le Monde in French 9-10 Oct 83 p 8

[Text](AFP) — Six prominent members of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde (PAIGC) have been suspended for a year, and three others have been expelled from the party for having "betrayed" the party's objectives, the PAIGC Central Committee announced recently. Among those affected by these measures are Madame Samba Lamine Mane, former minister of foreign affairs, who has been suspended from the Political Bureau, and Joao da Silva, former chief of staff of the Armed Forces of Guinea-Bissau, who remains a member of the Central Committee.

LIBERIA

Doe Says $975 Million Needed for Recovery

AB242050 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] The head of state, Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, says Liberia needs $975 million to recover from its present economic difficulties. According to a Liberia news agency dispatch from Bern in Switzerland, head of state Commander in Chief Samuel K. Doe is quoted as saying that this is the minimum level of assistance required to meet Liberia's total aid needs over the next 3 fiscal years. Out of the $975 million, head of state Doe said that $356 million would be needed for direct balance of payment support. The balance would go towards investment and technical assistance to stimulate Liberia's economic recovery. Dr Doe, who has been in Bern since yesterday, was speaking at the Universal Postal Union headquarters this morning when he opened the donor's conference sponsored by the United Nations Development Program [UNDP]. Dr Doe is due home this Wednesday.

The deputy minister of state for public affairs, Willie Gibbons, who is travelling with the head of state, says Dr Doe and party will return home on Wednesday afternoon. Dr Doe led a 40-man official delegation last weekend to participate in a donor's conference on Liberia in Bern, Switzerland. The conference was sponsored by the UNDP.

RSA Raid Into Mozambique Condemned

AB212205 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] The Government of Liberia has reacted with shock and indignation to the armed raid into Mozambique by racist South African forces in violation of international law and the territorial integrity of Mozambique. A Foreign Ministry release described the raid as a blatant act of aggression against a sovereign state, saying it is yet another example of South Africa's determination to violate the territorial integrity of sovereign states with impunity. The Foreign Ministry said South Africa's recourse to force of arms, intimidation, and murder will never dampen the resolve of the heroic South African freedom fighters in a just struggle against the oppressive system of apatheid.

MALI

Ministers Return From USSR, DPRK 21 Oct

AB212030 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Minister of State for Economy and Planning Oumar Coulibaly, who is also a member of the Central Executive Bureau, returned to Bamako from Moscow this morning after a long visit to the Soviet Union. Also on the same flight to Bamako this morning was Interior Minister Lieutenant Colonel Abderhamane Maiga, who was returning home from the DPRK after a 12-day private visit there.

Minister of Foreign Affairs Arrives in Cuba

FL231925 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation of Mali, has arrived at our capital in order to participate in the second session of the Cuba-Mali Joint Commission for Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation. Upon his arrival at the Jose Marti International Airport, the African minister was received by his Cuban counterpart, Isidoro Malmierca and other officials from the Ministry of Foreign Relations and from the State Committee for Economic Cooperation. Blondin Beye and the delegation he heads will visit various agricultural and industrial centers of Cuba.

NIGER

Three West African Summits To Be Held in Niamey

AB211820 Paris AFP in English 1749 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Niamey, Oct 21 (AFP) — Niger is to host three regional West African summit meetings at the end of the month, a reliable source said here today. The meetings to be held on October 30 and 31 by the West African Economic Community (CEAO), the Non-Aggression and Assistance Accord on Defence (ANAD), and the West African Monetary Union (UMOA) will be attended by a total of eight African heads of state and chaired by Niger's head of state Seyni Kountche. The six CEAO members — Upper Volta, Mali, Mauritania, Ivory Coast, Niger, and Senegal — will notably discuss progress in joint projects such as supplying water to villages and rural areas. Solar energy and fishing projects are also on the agenda. Delegates attending the UMOA summit — grouping Upper Volta, Ivory Coast, Niger, Senegal, Benin, and Togo — will tackle the problem of Mali's admission, which has

been pending since December 1981. Upper Volta opposed Mali joining UMOA because of a border conflict between the two states. But a reliable source said Ouagadougou could yield at the summit here, as new Upper Voltan leader Thomas Sankara has apparently made conciliatory gestures as the dispute readies to go to the International Court at the Hague.

The ANAD meeting, to be attended by the heads of state of the six CEAO nations and Togo, aims to strengthen regional solidarity and cooperation in defence despite the current difficult economic climate. At an ANAD meeting last month, member states notably discussed cooperation in the event of ocean pollution or natural disasters, and military defence with the possibility of setting up a joint general staff — or at least a joint coordinating centre with an exchange of information concerning security. The previous summit meetings of the three regional organisations took place in Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast, last December.

NIGERIA

Shagari Swears In Advisers, Pledges Integrity

AB220845 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] President Shehu Shagari says allegations regarding the integrity of any public officer will receive immediate attention and appropriate sanctions meted to anyone found guilty. He made this known yesterday while swearing in seven special advisers, the secretary to the federal government, and the head of the civil service. The president reiterated that under the new dispensation, renewed emphasis will be placed on higher standards of discipline, probity, and efficiency in the conduct of public affairs. He said that the mounting corruption in the society had to be cleared up and the people sanitized and made more humane.

President Shagari emphasized that the work of special advisers was a full time commitment. The president maintained that having been carefully selected for their acknowledged expertise in their different fields, the advisers should show good example in leadership through selfless hard work, dedication, and unflinching loyality to the goals and aspirations of the present administration. He urged them to immediately familiarize themselves with government policy and address themselves to devising appropriate measures to combat the economic situation. They should also help to find ways and means of minimizing the suffering of the people, especially in the drought affected area and other areas in need of relief in the country.

The president noted that the advisers called to service had come at a critical period when the nation was undergoing serious economic reverse arising from the world economic recession and the monocultural nature of the nation's economy. He reiterated the urgent need for a revitalization of the economy and diversification of resources in order to facilitate the achievement of the programs and policies of the administration which were designed to better the lot of the people and engender peace, harmony, and even development throughout the federation. President Shagari urged the advisers to come up with practical advice and recommendations for prompt decision making for the benefit of all Nigerians. He said that their task would be greatly facilitated if they kept their (?heads) to the ground and felt the barometer of public views and aspirations before arriving at their conclusions. The president remarked that the special advisers should always (?keep) their minds on the plural and diverse nature of the Nigerian society as well as the provisions of the Constitution so that whatever advice they offered did not militate against the ultimate objective of building a united, virile, and stable country.

The special advisers who were sworn in included Alhaji Yahaya Dikko, petroleum and energy; Alhaji Suleman Takuma, political affairs; Mr Sam Ikoku, National Assembly liaison; and Mr Gamaliel Onosode, budget. Others are Dr Theophilus Aribisala, agriculture; Prof Shehu Galadanci, national security, and Mr Philip Asiodu, economic affairs. The secretary to the federal government, Alhaji Shehu Musa, and the head of the civil service of the federation, Mr Gray Longe, also swore to the oath of office and allegiance.

SENEGAL

Diouf Comments on Sahara, Chad, Israel

AB230950 Paris AFP in French 1243 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] Dakar, 22 Oct (AFP) — President Abdou Diouf of Senegal believes that the current stalemate in the process for settling the Western Sahara problem "constitutes a serious threat to the survival of the OAU." In an interview granted to the Dakar newspaper *Le Soleil*, he affirmed that "if the process does not begin in time, we will run the most serious risk of ending up with the continental organization being paralyzed. This paralysis will be more serious than that previously experienced." This process, adopted during the last OAU summit in Addis Ababa, called for Morocco and the Polisario to begin negotiations in order to arrange a cease-fire that will permit the holding of a referendum on self-determination in the Western Sahara before the end of this year. The Senegalese president called on OAU member states to respect the resolution adopted on the Western Sahara during the last summit in Addis Ababa and to allow the process for a solution to this problem to begin, thus solving at the same time the problem of unity within the OAU.

President Diouf also expressed support for "maintaining and strengthening" meetings such as the French-African summit in Vittel, which are "important within the framework of the North-South dialogue and bilateral relations between France and each African state and between the African states themselves." Noting that the Vittel summit did not have the aim of resolving the Chadian problem, the Senegalese head of state believed that the summit attained its objective which, according to him, was "to more effectively clear the way for a possible solution that will be acceptable to those who are involved in this affair." "What needs to be done now," he added, "is for all African states to work together, within the OAU, to attain the objectives of survival and development in Chad." The Senegalese president, however, regretted that economic problems, in particular the debts of African states, were not discussed in the plenary session by the heads of state in Vittel. To this end, he suggested that French-African summits discuss not only political problems but also economic ones. The Senegalese head of state reaffirmed that

Senegal does not intend to resume diplomatic relations with Israel and stressed his country's solidarity with the Arab and Palestinian causes.

He believed that "the collusion between Israel and South Africa is in fact a very serious factor which can lead to weakening the African stand for achieving the three-fold objective of recovering the national rights of the Palestinian people, achieving the independence of Namibia, and ending the abominable practice of apartheid." "For this reason, we hope that African countries will close ranks and not follow the examples we have witnessed recently" (of resuming relations with Israel). Concerning Arab-African cooperation the president believed that "it is not the political willingness that is lacking," but "imagination concerning the ways and means to achieve it." He expressed support for holding a summit of Arab and African heads of state on cooperation, (?which will be preceeded by a meeting of) ministers. Asked about eventual resumption of relations with Libya (broken in 1980), the Senegalese head of state stated "that there was no dispute between Libya and Senegal. We will continue to maintain contacts to improve relations between the two countries."

Foreign Minister Leaves for Niamey Meetings
AB241400 Dakar Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] The Senegalese delegation to the ministerial and preparatory meetings for the summits for the Nonaggression and Defense Aid Agreement [ANAD], the West African Monetary Union [UMOA], and the West African Economic Community [CEAO] scheduled to take place in Niamey soon, left Dakar this morning. This delegation is composed in particular of Mouatapha Niasse, minister of state for foreign affairs, Medioune Fall, minister of the Armed forces, and Abdourahmane Toure, minister of trade.

UPPER VOLTA

Togolese President Eyadema Greets Sankara
AB221505 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Togolese President Gnassingbe Eyadema's message to President Thomas Sankara when flying over Upper Voltan territory on 22 October 1983]

[Text] To His Excellency Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution of Upper Volta. Mr President, I would like to take the opportunity of my flying over your country to send to you, on behalf of the Togolese people, their vanguard party — the Togolese People's Rally [RPT] — their government, and on my own behalf, our cordial greetings, to which I add my wishes for your good health and personal happiness and for the growing prosperity of the brotherly people of Upper Volta. May these long-standing relations continue to develop in order to strengthen our subregional organization — Ecowas — so that our people can live in peace and solidarity. Highest and most fraternal regards. [Signed] General Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding chairman of the RPT and president of the republic.

Malian President Traore Arrives, Comments
AB241300 Paris AFP in English 1242 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Ouagadougou, Oct 24 (AFP) — Malian leader Moussa Traore arrived here today on a working and friendship visit scheduled to last only a few hours in which he was to have talks with his Upper Voltan counterpart Thomas Sankara. General Traore said on arrival that he would be continuing discussions on strengthening bilateral cooperation in all sectors that had begun with a visit to Bamako last month by Capt Sankara, who seized power on August 4. While Mali and Upper Volta have still to settle a border dispute, President Traore recalled that Capt Sankara had said earlier that there were no problems between the neighbouring countries. Gen Traore was accompanied by a large delegation which included Djibril Diallo, the political secretary of the Central Bureau of the sole legal Malian People's Democratic Union, and Interior Minister Abderhamane Maiga.

Communique on Traore Visit
AB242125 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2030 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Joint Upper Volta-Mali communique issued in Ouagadougou on 24 October on Malian President Moussa Traore's working visit to Upper Volta — read by Malian Interior Minister Abderhamane Maiga]

[Text] At the invitation of His Excellency Captain Thomas Sankara, the chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and Upper Voltan head of state, His Excellency General Moussa Traore, the secretary general of the Malian People's Democratic Union [UDPM] and president of the Republic of Mali, paid a friendly, working visit to the Republic of Upper Volta on Monday, 24 October 1983. During the visit, the Malian head of state and the members of his delegation were given a fraternal and particularly warm reception by the Upper Voltan people. The reception ceremony was also enhanced by the presence of a high-powered delegation of the Malian community in Upper Volta.

President Moussa Traore and President Thomas Sankara held private talks in an atmosphere of brotherhood, friendship, and mutual understanding. The two heads of state noted with appreciation the excellence of the long-standing relations between the two peoples, based on good neighborliness, and brotherly cooperation. During their talks, the two heads of state made an extensive exchange of views, (?especially) on cooperation between the two countries. In this connection, they decided on the creation of a grand joint commission on cooperation between their two countries in order to promote, develop, and strengthen the cooperation on all levels. They expressed the desire to see the commission hold a meeting as soon as possible. Concerning the border dispute between the two countries in particular, the two heads of state expressed their firm political will to work toward a definitive solution. In this connection, they expressed their attachment to the (?resolutions) contained in the joint communique signed in Bamako on 5 September 1983, during President Sankara's visit, namely the decision to refer the matter to the International Court of Justice [words indistinct].

The two heads of state expressed their great concern over the serious situation prevailing in the subregion marked by several consecutive years of drought. They decided to join efforts in order to face the situation. The two heads of state expressed satisfaction over their harmonious cooperation within the regional and subregional organizations of which their two countries are members. They made the resolute commitment to work toward the consolidation of common organizations such as the West African Economic Community, the Liptakou-Gourma, the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel, the Ecowas, and the various other economic groupings on the African Continent.

Examining the situation in the Western Sahara, the two heads of state expressed their firm attachment to the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the OAU in June 1983 in Addis Ababa, and they urged the two warring parties — the Kingdom of Morocco and the Polisario Front — to open direct negotiations toward the establishment of the ceasefire and the holding of a self-determination referendum. The two heads of state expressed their serious concern over the situation prevailing in Chad and held the view that the settlement of that crisis lies in national reconciliation, the cessation of all foreign interference, and in respecting that country's territorial integrity. Concerning the situation prevailing in southern Africa, the two heads of state reaffirmed their strong condemnation of the South African minority regime and their indefectible support for the just struggle that the ANC is waging against the champions of apartheid.

They also reiterated their full support for the struggle of the Namibian people for their independence and their freedom under the clairvoyant leadership of their vanguard (?movement), SWAPO. In this connection, they reaffirmed their attachment to the implementation of UN Resolution 435 as the only acceptable basis for a just and lasting solution to the Namibian problem. Lastly, they reaffirmed their firm support to the frontline states, especially Mozambique and Angola, which have been subjected to South Africa's repeated acts of aggression. Concerning the Middle East, the two heads of state expressed their concern over the tragedy that the Palestinian people are experiencing. In this regard, they expressed their indefectible support to the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, their authentic and legitimate representative. The two heads of state underlined that any just and lasting solution to the Middle East problem necessarily implies Israel's total and unconditional withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, the realization of the Palestinian people's national rights, especially their right to an independent state.

Lastly, the two heads of state reaffirmed their indefectible attachment to the principles of nonalignment which should enable the Third World states to strengthen their national independence and to make a constructive contribution to the maintenance of world peace and security, and to the establishment of a new world economic order likely to guarantee the interests of the people. At the end of his stay in the Republic of Upper Volta, His Excellency President Moussa Traore expressed his heartfelt thanks to his brother and friend President Thomas Sankara, to the CNR, to the government, and to all the people of Upper Volta for the African hospitality that he and his delegation were accorded during their visit. Present at the talks were, on the Malian side: Djibril Diallo, political secretary of the UDPM Central Executive Bureau; Lieutenant Colonel Abderhamane Maiga, interior minister acting for the minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation; His Excellency Siratagou Cisse, Malian ambassador to Upper Volta; Tidjani Djite, the head of state's diplomatic advisor; Modibo Diarra, the president's press advisor; Nouhouss Damaketou, head of the Political Affairs Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation; and Boubacar (?Moussa), political adviser in the Ministry of the Interior.

On the Upper Voltan side were: Comrade Captain Blaise Compaore, minister of state delegate to the presidency; Comrade Eugene Talata Dondasse, minister of planning and cooperation; Comrade Damo Justin Barro, minister of finance; Comrade Ernest Ouedraogo, secretary of state for the interior and security acting for the minister of foreign affairs; Comrade Sidonie Ouedraogo, permanent secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Comrade Amadou Mougue, permanent secretary of the Ministry of Planning and Cooperation; Comrade Abdrasse Compaore, economic advisor in the presidency of the republic; Comrade Theodore Sawadogo, general manager of the treasury and public accountancy; Comrade Paul Didier Kabore, director of bilateral cooperation in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Comrade Dominique Isso, acting director of political affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Issued in Ouagadougou on 24 October 1983.

[Signed] For the Republic of Mali by His Excellency Moussa Traore, UDPM secretary general and president of the republic; for the Republic of Upper Volta by His Excellency Capt Thomas Sankara, CNR chairman and head of state [applause].

Three Aid Agreements Signed With France

AB230915 Paris AFP in French 1210 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] Ouagadougou, 22 Oct (AFP) — Three financial agreements were signed on Friday in Ouagadougou between the French Central Fund for Economic Cooperation, CCCE, and Upper Volta, it was disclosed in a communique published on Saturday in Ouagadougou. The first agreement, amounting to 40 million CFA francs, said the communique, will finance studies on the Ouagadougou transportaion center. According to the communique, the second agreement, valued at 1.8 billion CFA francs, is earmarked for the rehabilitation project for the Poura gold mine (located 175 km southwest of Ouagadougou). The Upper Voltan Government hopes to resume mining the Poura gold deposit in order to increase the country's export earnings and to develop the Volta River middle valley region. The same sources indicated that the third agreement, worth 850 million CFA francs, is to finance the Fara-Poura rural development project after the reopening of the Poura gold mine.

The documents were signed on behalf of Upper Volta by Eugene Talata Dondasse, the minister of planning and cooperation, and by Francois Perdieu de Charlat, the director of CCCE in Upper Volta.

Minister Leaves for Talks in Brussels, Rome

AB231155 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Comrade Traore Seydou, minister of rural development, left Ouagadougou yesterday for Brussels, EEC headquarters, at the head of an Upper Voltan delegation made up of two technicians of his department, to attend the fifth meeting of the Sahel Club, scheduled for 26 to 28 October 1983. Comrade Traore Seydou will later leave for Rome where he will participate in deliberations of the council and the general meeting of FAO. He will also hold meetings with the FAO, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, and Italian authorities within the framework of financing development projects.

ANGOLA

UNITA Says Cuban Troops, Soviet Materiel Arrive

MB241338 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Comrades, compatriots, and listeners of the Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel: According to information received from Luanda, more Cuban contingents have arrived in Angola. They are accompanied by Soviet war materiel which is being unloaded at night at the ports of Ponta Negra, Luanda, Lobito, and Mocamedes. Other information obtained from the international broadcasting stations in the world centers of strategic studies reveals a considerable increase in Cuban troops recently in Angola. There is no doubt that the country's political and military situation as well as the situation on the battlefield in Angola are not in favor of the Luanda minority regime. The advance of UNITA forces toward Luanda constitutes — as we have already noted — a serious threat to its last bastion.

Everyone is aware that the Luanda minority regime was imposed on the Angolan people and is being sustained by the Soviet force of arms held by thousands of Cuban murderers who invaded our country in January 1975. We are not surprised, therefore, that during this crucial period in their inglorious existence the MPLA chieftains have asked for more Cubans and more Soviet war materiel to protect them from the people's wrath, as they face the people's general discontent, which has changed from passive resistance to determined commitment.

All attempts to stop the wind with bare hands are doomed to failure. We — the Angolan people — have no other alternative if we want to live in freedom and happiness in our own homeland. We have all decided to enter Luanda Province, create total insecurity throughout the country, and punish the ringleaders of treason in the capital city, even if the Cubans increase their numbers. The history of peoples struggling for theirinterests and struggling against foreign domination and the domination by national minorities has proved that this is not a mere adage. In the fight against the Portuguese colonial domination of our country we confirmed that there is no single force in the world which can silence forever the will of a people. There is no choice for the MPLA chieftains.

Comrade President Dr Savimbi said that Cuba was 12 times smaller than Angola. That is why the 40,000 Cuban soldiers can never effectively control our country. Portugal, which had a good infrastructure in Angola and which enjoyed the unconditional support of 500,000 settlers and over 150,000 soldiers, paramilitary forces, and informers, lost the war. The MPLA must reflect on the lessons of history. Where Portugal lost despite all of its potential, the Cubans cannot triumph, even if they increase their numbers.

The struggle triumphs. United around Comrade President Dr Savimbi we shall win.

UNITA Preparing for Offensive

MB241500 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Comrades, compatriots, and listeners of the Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel: In the irreversible march of the fighters of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] toward Luanda, preparations are under way for the final goal — preparations which will inevitably result in a major overall offensive in which all the suffering people of Angola are ready to participate wholeheartedly under the great leadership of their indisputable leader, Comrade President Dr Savimbi.

The meeting between the UNITA Central Committee and the FALA Supreme Command in Cangamba 12-17 September 1983 reviewed in depth the first generalized offensive 2 August-2 September 1983, hailed the results of the offensive, and gave guidelines to the FALA supreme commander to launch quickly another generalized offensive against Luanda Province.

The FALA general staff, on the recommendation of the UNITA Central Committee, is already engaged in the task of combining means and deploying men as appropriate before informing the UNITA Central Committee of the date the large-scale offensive will be launched.

Side by side with all these preparations, FALA fighters have already intensified their fighting activities in Cuanza Sul, Cuanza Norte, Malange, Lunda, and Uige Provinces. In other words, this means that Luanda Province is already in a state of siege which is suffocating the ringleaders of the MPLA, who sought refuge in Luanda city.

Faced with a serious threat, the MPLA chieftains are desperately playing their last cards. The so-called Angolan National Radio, which we would better describe as the launching pad of lies of the MPLA chieftains, is trying to reassure the People's Forces for the Liberation of Angola soldiers by presenting the political and military situation of the country and fabricating victories over UNITA which are only ineffective attempts to disguise the panic and despair now facing them.

Inexperienced in issues of political and military strategy, the MPLA chieftains remain unaware that in 7 years of deception, suffering, and misery the people have reduced to nothing the chances for more maneuvers and lies.

The Angolan people are politically mature and tired of the many empty promises. They are also tired of foreign exploitation and humiliation, and are now totally and resolutely determined to support the struggle of national resistance and augment the FALA ranks in pulling out the evil by the roots.

Our aim is to penetrate the province and city of Luanda, destroy the entire infrastructure that nourishes the unpopular puppet regime of Luanda, and eliminate the ringleaders. Our march is to the north. We already have Menongue as our point of departure and we want to make Luanda our destination.

LESOTHO

King, Prime Minister Greet Zambian National Day

MB241404 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] His Majesty King Moshoeshoe II and the prime minister, The Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, have sent messages of congratulations to the president, the government, and the people of Zambia on their national day. Zambia's national day is today. In his message, his majesty wishes personal good health, happiness, and prosperity to the president, government, and people of the Republic of Zambia in the years that lie ahead. In his message, the prime minister, The Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, has expressed his desire that warm relations existing between Lesotho and Zambia continue to grow from strength to strength, and that happiness and prosperity should prevail in Zambia in the years that lie ahead.

Jonathan on RSA Employment, Talks With LLA

MB220609 Maseru Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] The prime minister, The Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, has urged Basotho workers in South African mines to strive to establish economic bases in Lesotho. Speaking at a public meeting at Thaba Chewu in the Mpharane constituency in Mohale's Hoek, yesterday, Dr Jonathan said that it was highly important that Basotho miners in South Africa should not perpetuate dependency on South Africa for employment opportunities. He advised that they should plow their earnings into agriculture or small businesses so that they could have an economic base at home, as the continued availability of employment opportunities in South Africa could no longer be guaranteed as a result of the attitude of the South African Government. The prime minister also spoke strongly about the need to promote local products, and he informed the meeting that government ministries had been instructed to give preference to local products when they were available. He said this would curb the outflow of Lesotho's capital and enhance the prospects of our rapid economic development.

Dr Jonathan also dismissed the demands that are being made from some quarters that he should hold a meeting with the leader of the South African-based bandits calling themselves the Lesotho Liberation Army [LLA]. He said he had no reason to speak to people who were rejected by the Basotho. He added that this could unfairly enhance the prestige of these rejects and give them a political image which they do not deserve. Speaking about the peace and stability of Lesotho, the prime minister said these would be guaranteed, if everybody joined the Basotho National Party, which had proved itself as the custodian of peace, while other parties had shown themselves as the enemies of peace and stability.

The prime minister was accompanied to yesterday's meeting by the minister of agriculture, The Honorable P.M. Peete, as well as the minister of state in the Ministry of the Interior, The Honorable I.T. Mokone.

MALAWI

Opposition Socialist League Elects New Chairman

MB211640 Harare The Herald in English 11 Oct 83 p 1

[By *Herald* correspondent]

[Text] The Socialist League of Malawi [LESOMA], fighting against the rule of Malawi's President Hastings Kamuzu Banda, has unanimously confirmed Cde Grey Kamuyambeni as the party's new national chairman. Political sources in Harare told *The Herald yesterday that the decision to elect Cde Kamuyambeni* (49), who is based in Dar es Salaam and was acting chairman, was taken at an extraordinary meeting of LESOMA's Central Committee in a frontline state recently.

Cde Kamuyambeni replaces the late Dr Attati Mpakati, who headed the opposition party until his assassination in Harare earlier this year. Cde Archibald Kapote Mwakasungura remains LESOMA's secretary general. The sources quoted Cde Kamuyambeni as having told party officials, after being confirmed to his post, that he would carry on LESOMA's work from "where Mpakati left" and urging all Malawians to unite under his party.

MOZAMBIQUE

Delegation Returns From Berlin CEMA Session

MB250858 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] Marcelino dos Santos, economic policy secretary of the Frelimo Party Central Committee and secretary of the People's Assembly Standing Commission, returned to the country yesterday from Berlin. Marcelino dos Santos led a delegation which took part as observers in the 37th CEMA session in the GDR capital. The CEMA session decided to strengthen cooperation between member-states with a view to solving the most important problems in development of the national economies and providing them with raw materials. The conference set the basic guidelines for widening cooperation in the field of rational and economic utilization of fuels, energy, and raw materials. Speaking during the session, Marcelino dos Santos exposed the undeclared war being waged by the Pretoria regime against Mozambique and referred to the negative economic consequences of that bellicose policy.

Soviet Muslim Group Visits Sofala Province

MB241633 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] The Soviet Muslim delegation which is currently visiting our country left Nampula town yesterday for the capital of Sofala Province, Beira. The vice president of the Muslim Religious Department for Central Asia and Kazakhstan, who is leading the delegation, told our Nampula regional radio station that the contacts which his delegation has made will contribute toward greater friendship and cooperation between the Mozambique and

Soviet Muslim communities. In Nampula Province, the Soviet Muslim delegation visited the capital of Nampula, Nacala town, and Mozambique Island, accompanied by Secretary General of the Mozambique Muslim Council Sheikh Abubacar Mussa Ismael.

Frelimo Official Urges Security Organization

MB211710 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Jose Pascoal Zandamela, first provincial secretary of the Frelimo Party in Inhambane, said on Saturday that the victory over the armed bandits — particularly in Inhambane Province — demonstrates the necessity of organizing all citizens into people's vigilance groups and the National People's Security Service [SNASP]. The Inhambane governor was speaking at a reception hosted on the occasion of SNASP day. Present at the reception were SNASP cadres, members of vigilance groups, and other guests, as well as the second provincial party secretary and military commander of Inhambane Province, Major General Domingos Fondo.

SOUTH AFRICA

'Black Consciousness', UDF Meetings Banned

MB211555 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] All meetings planned in the Johannesburg district this weekend to propagate or discuss the black consciousness movement have been banned. The banning order has been issued by the chief magistrate of Johannesburg, Mr (Oelof Meyer), under Section 46I of the Internal Security Act. It applies specifically to a meeting planned for tomorrow by the Azanian People's Organization at the Jabulani Amphitheater in Soweto. The order also specifically mentions the United Democratic Front meeting, which was to have been held at the Jabulani Amphitheater on Sunday. Any gathering at which the Release Mandela campaign is propagated, discussed, or referred to is also banned under the order. The order also forbids any gathering commemorating the banning of black consciousness organizations, or any gathering at which such organizations are discussed or referred to, or at which black consciousness is propagated, discussed, or referred to. The ban goes into effect at 1900 this evening and will remain in force until 1859 on Sunday evening.

AZAPO Reaction to Ban

MB220619 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] An Azanian People's Organization [AZAPO] spokesperson has reacted to the bannings of meetings this week:

[Begin recording] Botha and his white minority racist settler regime demonstrate a shocking desperation and lack of political insight by constantly and consistently banning the black people's meetings organized by AZAPO. A certain tragedy is felt when his running dogs in the form of the bantustan human dumping grounds [word indistinct] also perpetrate the same [words indistinct] shortsighted, fascist methods by banning meetings organized for the black people by the black people. [end recording]

Meanwhile, an AZAPO spokesperson in Durban says the meeting planned to take place there tomorrow has also been banned. The secretary of AZAPO's Durban branch, (Bradley Potgieter), says the meeting was scheduled for 1200 tomorrow afternoon. The ban extends from 1200 tomorrow until 1200 on Monday. (Potgieter) says AZAPO has decided to go ahead with the meeting at 1000 tomorrow morning at the same venue. Speakers will include (Peter Jones) and (Laban Mabaso).

Police Block AZAPO Meeting

MB221039 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 22 Oct 83

[Text] There has been confusion in Durban, where the Azanian People's Organization [AZAPO] has tried to hold a meeting. The meeting was originally scheduled for 1400 this afternoon, but yesterday Durban's magistrate outlawed all AZAPO meetings held between 1200 noon today and tomorrow night. In Durban here is Carmen Ricard:

[Begin recording] In terms of the prohibition notice, the meeting was not to be held between noon today and noon on the 24th. AZAPO planned to have the meeting at 1000 and so beat the ban.

The security police were there before 1000 and told me that if the meeting went ahead they would forcibly disrupt it and confiscate documents. Police also said the meeting had been banned because they were investigating AZAPO's activities. Reinforcements were brought in, and AZAPO eventually decided to call off the meeting.

As they were leaving, about a dozen police officers, some in camouflage and some in plain clothes, came into the hall and announced that the meeting had just been (?verbally) banned from 1000 by the magistrate and that they should all leave. Police then searched my bag, allegedly for AZAPO documents. Carmen Ricard Capital news, Durban. [end recording]

Reaction has come from AZAPO's spokesperson, (Strini Moodley):

[Begin recording] Because of the heavy presence of security police, the dog squad, and armed policemen, we have decided that in the interests of the people who helped to attend this morning's meeting, their interest is supreme, and, therefore, we have decided to call off this meeting, because we are aware of the police brutality that the South African police is capable of. For their interest and for their safety, we have decided that this meeting shall now be called off. [end recording]

Durban's magistrate, (Philip Castell), has refused to confirm or deny whether United Democratic Front meetings in Durban are also affected by his ban.

Ban on Meetings Extended

MB230749 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0700 GMT 23 Oct 83

[Text] On the West Rand, meetings to commemorate the banning of black consciousness organizations have been outlawed. A statement released by the West Rand police bans the meetings under security legislation from 0600 this morning until 2000 tomorrow night in the magisterial districts of Krugersdorp and Randfontein. Similar bans are in force in Johannesburg, Soweto, and Durban.

UDF Secretary Detained

MB240830 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] The publicity secretary of the United Democratic Front [UDF], Terror Lekota, has been detained by security police. Lekota was taken into custody by security police in Durban about an hour ago. Carmen Ricard has details:

[Ricard] According to one of the national secretaries of the UDF, Yunus Mahomed, Lekota phoned him shortly after 0700 this morning to tell him that members of the Special Branch were at his home and that he had to accompany them to police headquarters at C.R. Swart Square. His wife subsequently contacted Mohamed to confirm that they had taken Lekota. Police are not yet available at the police headquarters to confirm his detention.

Lekota was appointed full-time organizer of the UDF in August following the launching of the UDF in Cape Town. He spent the last few months traveling the country addressing gatherings of the UDF and assisting in the formation of new branches. Lekota was an executive member of the South African Students Organization [SASO] at the time it was banned. He was jailed for 6 years on Robbin Island in the SASO trial of 1977 for his part in SASO activities. Lekota had spoken at two Durban meetings yesterday. He encouraged constituent members of the UDF to continue their work in opposing the government's constitutional proposals.

Lekota Freed; Leader Comments

MB241040 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] The publicity secretary of the United Democratic Front [UDF] is reported to be out of detention. Reports from Durban say Terror Lekota was released several hours after he was detained this morning. UDF officials say Lekota was taken from his home in Claremont near Durban at 0700 this morning for questioning. A senior police public relations officer couldn't confirm the detention. President of the UDF Archie Gumede has slammed the detention of publicity secretary Terror Lekota. Gumede said he was shocked and dismayed to hear of the detention.

[Begin Gumede recording] If this is the beginning of the crackdown on the leadership of the UDF, then we wonder what the future holds for the voiceless masses of South Africa under the new constitution if it is approved at the referendum. If the debate on its approval is to be conducted by the sponsors of the constitution intimidating and victimizing those who are organizing and presenting the people's case against approval of the new constitution, can the result of the referendum be regarded as representing the duly considered decision of the people of South Africa? [end recording]

UDF Rondebosch Meeting Banned

MB241246 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1151 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] Cape Town, Oct 24, SAPA — A meeting of the United Democratic Front which was to have been held in the Rondebosch Town Hall tonight has been prohibited by the chief magistrate of Wynberg, Mr W.P. Theron. The ban will be effective in the Wynberg Magisterial District from 7 pm tonight until 6 pm Wednesday.

The meeting has been banned in terms of Section 46 of the Internal Security Act. In the prohibition notice Mr Theron said the reason for the ban was that it was feared public order could be endangered by the meeting.

Meeting Allowed To Proceed

MB250724 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] A judge of the Cape Town Supreme Court, Mr Justice M.A. (Rose-Innes), last night set aside an order banning a meeting of the United Democratic Front in the Rondebosch Town Hall. The meeting had been banned by the chief magistrate of Wynberg, Mr W.P. Theron. An urgent application to have the banning set aside was brought before the Supreme Court. Mr Justice (Rose-Innes) lifted the ban at 1930 last night, and the meeting took place.

UDF Meeting Held

MB250820 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0700 GMT 25 Oct 83

[Text] The United Democratic Front [UDF] meeting in Rondebosch last night, attended by about 1,200 people, was addressed, among others, by veteran civil rights campaigner, Helen Joseph. But because she is a listed person she cannot be quoted. The UDF Western Cape vice president, (Christmas Thinto), launched a stinging attack on apartheid, calling it a monster which has caused untold suffering:

[Begin recording] This monster has created hatred and mistrust among our people, both black and white. It has driven the colored people out of District 6 and other areas. Our crime rate is higher than any country in the world — rape, assault, robbery, and others. The suffering and hardships in the black community — hundreds of thousands are arrested day and night for passes. Thousands of our people, women, and children are sleeping in the bushes.

ANC Members Sentenced in Pretoria to Jail Terms
MB211541 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Text] Two self-confessed members of the banned ANC, who were found guilty in the Pretoria Supreme Court of high treason earlier this week, have been sentenced to 18 and 15 years' imprisonment. The court found that the two terrorists, Alpheus Zacharia Molotsi and Jacob Molefe, had entered the country on 16 February with the purpose of committing acts of terror. They had received military training in Angola and the Soviet Union. Their instructions had been to sabotage power stations, fuel depots, and other installations. In his judgment, Mr Justice H H. Moll said that 28-year-old Molotsi, who had entered the country on two previous occasions on reconnaissance mission for the ANC, and 23-year-old Molefe had also fired on members of the South Africa police.

SWAZILAND

Two Former Officials Remain in Detention
MB250810 Mbabane The Times of Swaziland in English 25 Oct 83 p 1

[Excerpt] Sixty-day detainees Mr Douglas Lukhele and Mr Arthur Khoza, whose detention orders expired at the weekend, are still being held. Mr Khoza's detention order expired on Saturday and Mr Lukhele's order expired on Sunday. But they were apparently served with documents renewing their detentions, which means they will serve another 60 days in custody without trial. The two men are being held for political and security reasons connected with the dismissal of former Queen Regent Dzeliwe.

No-one was available from the Prime Minister's office for comment in connection with the renewal of the detentions of ex-High Court Judge Lukhele and former Permanent Secretary for Agriculture, Mr Khoza. But a prisons headquarters source said according to prison regulations 60-day detainees are released immediately at the expiry of the detention orders. He said if they continue to be in custody, it means that they have been served with papers a day before the date they are supposed to be released.

The authorities say the two men ill-advised and misled the former Queen Regent into making political blunders. The authorities say they were often seen in and out of the Regent's residence in Lobamba and that they went in without going through the formal channels through the governor of Lobamba.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Receives National Day Congratulations
MB242002 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] State House is still receiving congratulatory messages on Zambia's 19th independence anniversary from national leaders all over this world. In their messages sent to President Kaunda, heads of state, governments, and international organizations wished President Kaunda personal good health and happiness, and the continued prosperity of Zambia.

The president of the (Karansuka Deka International) in Tokyo, (Desaku Ikuda), in his message wished Zambia continued prosperity. The president of the Republic of the Seychelles, Albert Rene, wished the ties of friendship that exist between the two countries strengthened, and the acting president of the Republic of Singapore, Dr (Yeo Ging), wished President Kaunda personal well-being. Similar messages received include those from the president of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, Forbes Burnham; Major General Juvenal Habyarimana, president of the Republic of Ruanda; and King Baudouin I of Belgium.

Defense Secretary Warns of Malcontents, Refugees
MB241246 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] The secretary of state for defense and security, Mr Grey Zulu, has warned Zambians against listening to malcontents who are going around discrediting the Zambian leadership changes that were made on the [words indistinct] the country has enjoyed since independence. Mr Zulu noted that bandits from foreign countries were terrorizing Zambians on the Copperbelt because they had been frustrated in their own countries. He was speaking at Chilubi's Kaunda Square, having arrived for a 3-day election campaign tour of Chinsali and Chilubi districts. Mr Zulu said he would be disheartened to see Zambians fleeing to other countries to become refugees because of a lack of peace in the nation.

ZIMBABWE

Soviet 'Ministerial Level' Women's Group Arrives
MB241912 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] A two-member delegation from the Soviet Women's Committee, comprising one Central Committee member of the CPSU, arrived in Harare today. The delegation is here for talks with the minister of women's affairs and community development, Comrade Teurai Ropa Nhongo, who met the visitors at the airport.

Comrade Sayyera Sultanova, Soviet minister of social security [title as heard], said on her arrival that her country supports Zimbabwe's policy of promoting friendship, peace, and cooperation and ending colonialism and racism. She said imperialists have strained the international situation. Nations are struggling against imperialist encroachment for freedom and independence. Comrade (Sutanova) pointed out that there is no more important, no more urgent task now than to save peace and prevent nuclear weapons from being brought into play. During this visit, the first such at ministerial level by a delegation from the Soviet Union to Zimbabwe, Comrade Sultanova and Comrade (Ela Gaivar) will visit 88 Manica Road, the ZANU-PF Headquarters, and women's projects at (Mashingo). The delegation is in Zimbabwe for 1 week.